



## Changes to road parking is on way

A MAJOR shake-up of parking restrictions in Welshpool will be brought in to improve safety on its controversial one-way system.

Powys County Council has backed plans for an on-street loading and parking review which will see sections of the town transformed into a no-stopping area in a bid to halt disruption.

Areas of Severn Street, Church Street, The Cross, Berriew Street and Broad Street are earmarked to become either no-stopping areas or to have no loading between 8am and 10am and 3pm and 5.30pm.

Some roads are set to become no parking areas under the plans.

Chris Lloyd, road safety and traffic systems manager for Powys County Council, said: "Discussions have been held with Welshpool Town Council which carried out its own informal public consultation exercise to establish what changes within the town they considered appropriate.

"The proposals include changes to those waiting and loading restrictions identified as part of the scrutiny review of the gyratory system deemed to be problematic in terms of the free flow and safety of traffic movements within the town centre."

Consultation into the plans has been launched.

## Poison plea made after cat's death

ONE cat has died and another is fighting for its life after being poisoned in Welshpool.

The two cats were found in the Prince of Wales Drive area of the Oldford estate. It is not yet known if the cats were targeted deliberately.

Constable Mike Clark of Dyfed-Powys Police said: "Police are investigating the poisoning of two cats in that area of town. It happened sometime overnight on February 2 into February 3.

"I would plead with anybody with information to come forward as a matter of urgency and call us. If this has happened deliberately we need to know, so anyone with information or anyone who saw anything suspicious should get in touch."

## Charity shop launches dress sell-off



Dot Maddocks from the Barnardo's wedding dress showroom in Oswestry shows off some of the stock

A WEDDING dress showroom which has raised £8,000 for charity is to close – and is offering romantic lovebirds the chance to snap up a bargain in time for Valentine's Day.

The Barnardo's shop in Cross Street, Oswestry, is selling off its entire collection of 200 new and original wedding and bridesmaids' frocks after running the showroom for a very successful year.

Shop manager Claire Macmillan said: "It's brought in a lot of extra revenue for us, but now because we're not getting the stock in any more there doesn't seem much point in continuing.

"All the dresses came from a bridal shop in Wellington that's closing down.

"There's still plenty of dresses left and if someone wants to bring a bridal party and have the room to themselves to look around and try things on we can organise that.

"We have all shapes and sizes and styles of dresses. We have some sets of bridesmaids' dresses, but there are plenty of choices of colours so even if you can't find a pair, you can coordinate the colours."

All the wedding dresses are priced £40 – including those by top-name brands including Alfred Angelo, Divina Sposa, Christine Elisabeth and Linzi Jay.

All are brand new and they include ex-sample garments, end-of-line or catwalk items in sizes ranging from 8 to 24. Some are washable and some dry cleanable, and they have never been worn before.

Bridesmaids' and flower girls' outfits, which would also be suitable for proms, are priced at £15 and will fit anyone from a toddler to an adult. There is also a small selection of menswear, tiaras and shoes.

Once the dresses have been sold, the room will be converted into a book room.

The bridal showroom is open daily Monday to Saturday from 10am to 4pm.

## Festival organiser calls for support

THE Welshpool Music Festival is in danger of "fizzling out", organisers fear.

The festival attracts hundreds of people and sees dozens of bands performing multiple sets at various pubs and venues across the town each May.

But organiser Kuldip Caberwal said it has grown so much over the past two years that he does not have the resources to manage it properly this year.

He said he is urging people to come forward to offer help and support if they want it to continue.

Mr Caberwal said: "We all know that each year this festival grows bigger and bigger. Last year was the best to date, but we want to make it better still. Nothing would give us greater pleasure than to grow with it and provide an excellent day out for you all to enjoy.

"The reality of the situation is, however, unless we get more people to come and help out, this event is in real danger of fizzling out in its prime, and that would be such a shame. Please can we appeal to you to spread this message or get in touch if you can help in any way or know someone who would like to."

The Welshpool Music Festival event takes place on the second May Bank Holiday Sunday. For information, or to offer support, visit its Facebook page.

OsFest - Page 5

## Windfarm battle costs are revealed

MORE than £2 million of taxpayers' money has been spent on fighting against planning appeals from windfarm companies.

The figure was revealed in a report to Powys County Council's cabinet on Tuesday, which also confirmed that a further £713,455 has been earmarked to defend the council's planning decisions on windfarm projects.

The majority of the £2 million has been made up of legal bills racked up at the Powys Conjoined Windfarm Inquiry, which closed in June. The inquiry will decide whether windfarms and a 132kv power line are given approval.

The council had objected to the applications.

# ROAD UPGRADE HOPES BOOSTED

Report by Pam Kingsley

FRESH attempts are to be made to improve the main road which links Oswestry and Welshpool in a double pronged bid to save lives.

Investigations will be held to find ways to improve "inadequate" sections of the A483 as well as the A5.

And fresh talks have been held to look at how to improve the route as it passes near Chirk.

Transport minister John Hayes has promised a study into the A5 between Shrewsbury and Ruabon. The findings will be reported within the next six months.

Mr Hayes has also pledged a fresh look will be taken at plans for a Llanymynech and Pant bypass on the A483.

North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson said the study could provide a "breakthrough" for plans to make the A5 a dual carriageway.

He said: "I was extremely pleased that John

Hayes was able to confirm that a high level study of the A5 corridor would take place which will report in six months' time.

"This could be the breakthrough that we need to see this issue resolved once and for all."

Mr Paterson also gained assurances that the minister and Edwina Hart, his counterpart in the Welsh Assembly, will ask a Cross Border Road Forum to look at the issue as well as a Llanymynech and Pant bypass.

He said: "The Cross Border Road Forum is a new and imaginative initiative to help unlock the current impasse on local road schemes which cross into Wales."

Councillor Dilys Gaskill, chairwoman of Pant and Llanymynech Parish Council, welcomed the announcement of the forum and its brief to look at the possibility of creating a new road around the two villages.

Cllr Gaskill said: "We had a meeting of the parish council on Friday with Glyn Davies MP and the bypass action group. The feeling of the

meeting was yes, this forum is a good thing to have.

"It's the only way really you're going to deal with the cross-border issue.

"It's like a key now. It's beginning to unlock things and get them moving."

Meanwhile in a separate development Susan Elan Jones, MP for Clwyd South, has met Chirk's borough councillors Ian Roberts and Terry Evans to discuss ways to increase safety on the A483 as it passes Chirk.

Councillor Roberts said he believed the quickest way to cut accidents was to stop overtaking.

"I think in every case the accident had been caused by overtaking," he said.

Councillor Evans said: "I believe we need to have crash barriers along both bridges which stops drivers from overtaking. I think the whole stretch from Gledrid to Ruabon needs to have double white lines and no overtaking at all. The speed limit in my view needs to be 40 to 50mph.

"These are things that could be achieved at very little cost."



Councillor Dilys Gaskill

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## PICTURE PREVIEW



Why was Mayor of Welshpool Malcolm Douglass on a narrowboat? Turn to Page 12 to find out.

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# Motorist disqualified after admitting to drink-driving

By Dominic Robertson

**A WOMAN kicked out at police officers, bit grass from a roadside verge and hit herself, after crashing her car while over the drink-drive limit, a court has heard.**

Laura Elizabeth Griffiths, 27, of Cae Camlad, Churchstoke, admitted drink-driving, careless driving and obstructing a police constable at Welshpool Magistrates Court.

Griffiths was disqualified from driving for 24 months and given a 12-month community order. She was also ordered to pay £50 compensation to PC Louise Cook, £85 costs and a £60 victim surcharge.

Helen Trench, prosecuting, said the incidents had taken place at temporary traffic lights on the A490 between Forden and Chirbury, on September 3.

She said Griffiths crashed into another car. Mrs Trench said that following the accident Griffiths was described as "totally unstable".

Mrs Trench told the court that Griffiths had kicked and sworn at officers and had hit herself in the head.

Mrs Trench said she was taken to hospital where she continued to be abusive to police officers and the hospital security guard.

In police interview Griffiths told officers she had seen a badger which had caused her to swerve and hit the vehicle.

She admitted drinking a pint of Stella Artois, a cocktail, and a shot of Sambuca at lunch.

Mrs Trench said Griffiths had denied eating grass and denied kicking out at officers.

Bethan Jones, mitigating, said Griffiths is an intelligent woman who wanted to apologise for her actions.

She said: "She accepts she drank to excess on this particular day."

## Former town school teacher dies at 103

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former Oswestry teacher who died just a few weeks short of her 104th birthday.

Mary Garside taught at the now-closed Welsh Walls Church of England School in Oswestry.

She died on January 24 at Llangollen Fechan Care Home, having been looking forward to what would have been her birthday on March 1. Mrs Garside grew up in Knockin, near Oswestry, and was the oldest of seven brothers and sisters.

At the age of 10, she won a scholarship to Oswestry Grammar School.

A young Mary dreamed of being a teacher and, once qualified, she first went to work in one of the most deprived areas of the city of Liverpool.

She had two children, five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Granddaughter Vicky Cook said: "She'd done a lot in her life. She used to enjoy playing bridge and only gave that up when she was 100."

"She did a lot of travelling to different countries."

## MP is told of dairy farmers' worries



Tim Farron with Lib Dem election candidate for Montgomeryshire Jane Dodds during the dairy farming talks

FORMER Liberal Democrat chairman Tim Farron discussed the future of dairy farming with a group of 30 farmers from the Welshpool area when he visited the area.

Mr Farron met the farmers on Monday evening at the Cock Inn, Forden, to discuss their concerns over falling milk prices and the viability of their businesses.

He said he had heard stories from the farmers about their own businesses, and had also heard about Leighton farmer Fraser Jones's plans for a megadairy which were passed by a planning inspector last year.

"I understand why people look at that, at megafarms, as an option but I think it would be a terrible shame if all farms ended up all in the hands of megafarms," he said.

"I think it would be a shame if that became the norm. The bigger farms will have more efficiency and it's possible other practices could be trialled or learned there and passed on to family farms."

Mr Farron said he believed the Groceries Code Adjudicator, which oversees the relationship between supermarkets and their suppliers, would begin to make a difference after it was

given powers to fine supermarkets which are treating their suppliers unfairly.

During his visit Mr Farron spent time with Liberal Democrat parliamentary candidates Jane Dodds for Montgomeryshire and Charlotte Barnes for Ludlow discussing issues in their constituencies and going out with them to meet residents ahead of the general election.

Mr Farron, who is tipped to be the next leader of the Liberal Democrats if the party fails to show well at the election, added: "This is going to be a very complex election."

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## Motorist is banned for drinks offence

A MAN has been disqualified from driving after crashing his works van while more than three times over the drink-drive limit.

Gareth Ellis, 33, of Dolafon, Penybontfawr, near Oswestry, admitted drink-driving during an appearance at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Tuesday.

Helen Tench, prosecuting, said police had been called to a road accident on January 18, on the B4391 at New Mills.

She said officers found a van on its side blocking the road and Ellis, the driver, talking to paramedics.

A roadside breath test recorded a level of 115 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath – the legal limit is 35.

In an interview with police Ellis said he had drunk six pints of lager and had then been called out to attend a job in Newtown.

Huw Williams, mitigating, said it was a “one-off incident” and that Ellis had no intention of drink-driving on that afternoon.

He added that Ellis had fully cooperated with police. Ellis was disqualified from driving for 24 months.

He was also made the subject of a 12-month community order with a supervision requirement, and ordered to pay £85 costs and a £60 victim surcharge.

## Helicopter is called in

A ROAD was closed in Oswestry yesterday afternoon (Wednesday) after the air ambulance was called to a medical emergency.

Police sealed off Victoria Road at about 2pm for about 20 minutes to allow the air ambulance to find a safe landing spot.

The patient was collected and transferred to the Royal Stoke University Hospital.

# Hillfort is inspiration for national Valentine's hug

Report by Pam Kingsley

**OSWESTRY'S** iconic hillfort has proved the inspiration for a national “heritage hug” on Valentine's Day.

The 3,000-year-old Iron Age monument will be the scene of a symbolic hug on Saturday as part of a campaign to protect the surrounding area from development.

And now what started as a single event has gone national, with a social media campaign #hugyourheritage calling for the nation to join in the spirit of the event by tweeting selfies with the “I love heritage” logo.

## Fund cuts go before councillors

MORE than £16 million of cuts including secondary school closures, moving to three week bin collections and ceasing funding of theatres have been signed off by council chiefs.

Powys County Council's cabinet voted unanimously to agree its 2015/16 budget plans last month, which also include a four per cent rise in council tax.

The proposals were agreed by the full council at a meeting in County Hall, Llandrindod Wells yesterday. (Wednesday)

The move brings a council tax increase and will see the bill for an average band D homeowner increase by £40.22, to £1,045.62 per year.

The budget features a raft of service cuts as the council seeks to save more than £16 million.

They include saving £450,000 by handing management of leisure centres to a different company, £350,000 by reducing opening hours at libraries, £283,000 by ceasing funding for theatres, and £300,000 by ceasing to fund seven day centres.

It is also agreed that the council cuts £300,000 from the waste service budget and considers a move to three weekly collections for wheelie bins and refuse sacks (not recycling), and that car parking charges are increased.

The schools service is facing £1.8 million of cuts, including a review of school meals, a reduction in the number of pupils attending schools, and removing the library service from schools' delegated budget.

The campaign has gained the support of leading museums around the country.

Bodies so far backing the campaign include the Mary Rose Museum in Portsmouth, Jane Austen's House in Hampshire, and the Scottish Government-run Historic Scotland agency.

Kate Clarke, who lives in Oswestry and is one of the campaigners, said: “History and heritage are important.

“We want people to show heritage some love in a protective hug at Old Oswestry Hillfort as planners target its ancient landscape for housing.

“We are urging as many people as possible to take part in person or online and demonstrate their support for an iconic and nationally important hillfort.

“If you can't be there in person, pledge to join in through the hashtag #hugyourheritage and share a picture of you with your favourite heritage site, monument or building.”

Participants are being asked to reserve their tweets at Thunderclap, the crowd-speaking platform which will mass-share the message on Valentine's Day, at [www.thunderclap.it/projects/22001-hug-your-heritage](http://www.thunderclap.it/projects/22001-hug-your-heritage)

The initiative comes as a Government inspector deliberates over whether areas bordering the earthwork earmarked for housing should remain in Shropshire's future local development plan.

Dr George Nash, an archaeologist and adviser to the Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort campaign, said: “What happens at Old Oswestry is being seen as a test case that could open the floodgates to indiscriminate development exploiting heritage sites and areas of natural beauty across Britain.”

The hug will take place at 1pm, with participants asked to meet at Gatacre playing fields in Oswestry for the short walk to Old Oswestry.

Participants are asked to sign up to the event page on Facebook, if possible.

Volunteers are also needed to help steward the event.

Anyone interested should ring (01691) 652918.

## Bike campaign supported



Judy Bristoll helped collect bikes and donations during a rotary event in Oswestry

MORE than 50 bicycles will soon be on their way from Oswestry to pupils in Africa to help them with their daily journey to school.

The Borderland Rotary Club of Oswestry appealed for any spare bicycles which could be donated to the rotary organisation's national appeal to help children get to school in remote areas of the continent.

Volunteers set up a collection point close to the town's main car park.

And they were delighted by the number of people who went along with their cycles and also donated £10 towards the refurbishment and the transport costs.

Judy Bristoll, from the rotary club, said: “Borderland wish to thank all the people

who turned up with a wide variety of bike, ancient and modern, which will be refurbished and shipped out to Africa.

“We had 46 bikes donated on the day, some from as far as Telford, with several more to be collected later. Two years ago we collected 42 bikes.”

The bicycles are sent to schools in Africa, where the children may have to walk up to 10 miles before they start their lessons.

They often arrive tired and late and can't stay for after school activities as they have to walk back home again.

The Bikes4Africa scheme reconditions used bikes and transports them to African schools where they are loaned to needy students.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Waste firm wins new contracts

A WASTE management group has landed major contracts with two Welsh councils that will see it sending their waste to Sweden.

The waste arm of the Potter Group in Welshpool has won the right to collect the non-recyclable refuse from Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion, which will be processed into fuel and exported to Scandinavia.

There, it will be used in a high-efficiency power station to produce electricity and heat for local homes.

The contracts will allow Potters to create new jobs.

They also seal Potter Group's position as the biggest privately owned waste management organisation in Wales and come quick on the heels of the purchase of Pembrokeshire based waste management organisation Resources Management UK (RML).

#### Radio station is not broadcasting

A MID Wales radio station has stopped broadcasting.

Ocom, the Government body which regulates UK broadcasting, confirmed that Radio Hafren was off air.

A spokesman for Ocom said: “We are aware Radio Hafren has stopped broadcasting and we are speaking with the station to confirm its status.”

The station, based in premises owned by Powys County Council at Back Lane Car Park, Newtown, took over from Radio Maldwyn after its closure in 2010.

#### Man bailed after arrest in village

A MAN who was arrested after a road collision involving a police car in Chirk Bank has been bailed until next month.

The 26-year-old was arrested on Saturday after the collision which happened at about 1.15am.

He was arrested on suspicion of possessing class A drugs and released on bail until March 3. Nobody was hurt in the collision.

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# Council is told of concerns over hospital revamp plan

Report by Pam Kingsley

**PLACING** Shropshire's only accident and emergency unit in Telford could lead to added pressure on hospital services across the Welsh border in Wrexham, councillors have been told.

Councillor Paul Milner told a meeting of Oswestry Town Council he was worried key health services could drift further away from the town as part of proposals drawn up by the NHS Future Fit programme board.

One of the plans could see the emergency centre covering Shropshire and Mid Wales based at Telford – more than an hour's drive from Oswestry. It is feared this could lead to many people travelling to Wrexham Maelor instead for urgent treatment.

## Ambulance responses plea made

AN immediate investigation must be carried out into ambulance response times in Mid Wales after figures showed performance in the region hit a record low, an AM has claimed.

Almost half of the most urgent 999 ambulance calls in Powys did not receive help within eight minutes in December.

The target for responding to Category A calls – immediately life-threatening emergencies – is 65 per cent, but figures released by the Welsh Government showed in December it was just 51.6 per cent in Powys.

Now Montgomeryshire AM Russell George has called for something to be done.

He said: "It's nothing new that the Welsh Ambulance Service repeatedly fails to meet its performance targets for life threatening emergency calls. However, the fact that performance in Powys has fallen to its lowest level since current records began, is very worrying indeed."

"Paramedics and supporting ambulance staff work tirelessly to deliver the highest standards of care but systemic failures are clearly letting them and patients down."

A spokesman for the Wales Ambulance service said in the past 20 years the number of calls it received have tripled. "The majority of these cases are not life-threatening and do not require an immediate 'blue lights' response, and in some cases and ambulance response is not necessary," he said. Across Wales 42.6 per cent of urgent calls were attended within eight minutes.

The town council backed a motion put forward by Councillor Duncan Kerr to work to maintain services at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, which is about half an hour away.

A shortlist of six options have been drawn up for the future of health care in Shropshire, including setting a single emergency centre up for the region either at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Telford's Princess Royal or a new site. All existing minor injuries units at hospitals around the county will be considered as urgent care centres and diagnostic and treatment centres will also be set up.

Councillor Milner, speaking at a council meeting on Wednesday last week, said: "As I'm here to represent the best interest of the residents of Oswestry the last thing I'd like to see would be essential health care services such as emergency centres and A&Es move further and further away from Oswestry. Oswestry after all is the second largest town in Shropshire so we should have easy access to these essential services."

"If these important services were to move to Telford than I can see more and more people going to Wrexham Maelor's A&E as it's much quicker to get to in an emergency."

"Let's hope that when the final decisions are made we have a first class emergency centre and diagnostic and treatment centre in easy reach of our town."

Councillor Kerr said: "Given that the Future Fit programme has reached a critical stage in determining policy and strategy for the future of NHS services in Shropshire, we strongly believe that the retention and development of full A&E services and facilities at the RSH is essential."

"The council commits itself to pursuing this objective in every way possible and generally ensuring that there is no reduction in the overall levels of service and quality at RSH which are freely available for residents of Oswestry and neighbouring areas."

## OsFest will not go ahead



Razorlight were one of the big names OsFest brought to Oswestry

OSWESTRY'S OsFest music festival which has brought the likes of Razorlight, JLS and Example to the area, will not go ahead this year.

The organisers of OsFest, which is staged at Park Hall Showground, say the festival will not take place this summer and future events may also be in doubt.

In a statement, the organising committee said: "OsFest would like to thank everybody that has come and supported the event over the last five years."

"Unfortunately though, due to many factors in 2014 – being let down by key artists, hurricanes and a lack of audience support, among others – we are sad to say that OsFest is not going to be viable for 2015 and we will therefore be taking a break for the foreseeable future. To our loyal supporters, a very big thank you and we are really sorry if you are disappointed that we won't be back this year. Never say never, watch this space."

OsFest was launched in 2010 with 5,000 people attending.

Last year's event was plagued with problems after a last-minute change of dates, moving to August just two weeks before it was due to take place over the spring bank holiday weekend.

Organisers then had to deal with the disappointment of acts including Paloma Faith pulling out of the two-day event at the 11th hour. And the showground was then battered by high winds from ex-hurricane Bertha.

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## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

You know there's an election coming when a Government minister raises fresh hopes for a bypass for Pant and Llany-mynech. Villagers have been campaigning for decades for the new road and their hopes were dashed a couple of years back when the Welsh Government did their bit by bypassing Four Crosses only for the scheme to be shelved as it crossed the English border.

Now John Hayes, minister of state for transport, has given assurances that a fresh look will be taken at the badly needed scheme. But he would, wouldn't he? What an easy thing to say in a bid to capture border votes for the May election.

The project is the subject of the UK's longest running bypass campaign and I'm sure campaigners will be wise enough not to start dancing on the streets after Mr Hayes announced he and Edwina Hart, his counterpart in the Welsh Assembly, will ask a Cross Border Road Forum to look at the issue again.

The forum is a new initiative to help unlock the current impasse on local road schemes which cross the Wales-England border.

For motorists trying to get from North to South Wales the villages have become nightmare spots for delays. Vital speed restrictions are adding to journey times and frustrating drivers on a stretch of road which seems to be forever under repair. I'm keeping my fingers crossed but I fear my driving days could be well gone before this road scheme is complete.

There's more chance of us seeing improvements to the stretch of road between Oswestry and Wrexham though.

Mr Hayes has promised to commission a study of the road within the next six months. Fresh investigations will be held to find ways to improve this death-trap road. Accident statistics show that from 1997 to 2008 there were eight deaths on the A5 from Davoston to Chirk – a distance of about 13-and-a-half miles. There were also 190 serious accidents and 197 slight accidents recorded.

Quite frankly the Oswestry-Wrexham road is a racetrack where you take your life into your own hands every time you drive. The Oswestry by-pass should have been a dual carriageway, eliminating the idiotic craze of playing 'dare' with the driver coming the opposite way down the middle of the two-lane road. And there should be no passing allowed on the Chirk bypass stretch, double white lines would sort most of the problems overnight.

But while we look for answers shouldn't we also take a look back at who created these man-made problems. Who designed this stretch? Could they not see the dangers they were creating?



Old measurements could soon be a thing of the past after an EU ruling to convert railways to metric



Mick Whelan, general secretary of the train driver's union Aslef, has concerns about metric trials



There have been reports of trains running through stop signals during trials of the new metric system

# Will metric be a change for better for railways?

**MARK ANDREWS** takes a closer look at what the move towards metric will mean for the railways

**A COUNTRY Mile, The Whole Nine Yards. From the Rolling Stones' Moonlight Mile to Stephen Hawking's The Green Mile, the British imperial measurements for distance are firmly embedded in the culture of the English-speaking world.**

And despite repeated attempts to impose metric measurements on the UK, this country has been stubbornly resolute in its adherence to miles and yards.

That could all be about to change with a controversial EU ruling that Britain's railways must now convert to the metric system, measuring distances in kilometres rather than miles, metres rather than yards, and speeds in km/h.

The directive follows the introduction of a new EU-wide computerised signalling system, which will ultimately replace conventional trackside signals and speed limit signs with actively managed messages being beamed onto a computer screen in the cab.

## System

The new system has been piloted since March 2011 on the Cambrian line, from Sutton Bridge Junction in Shrewsbury to Aberystwyth and Pwllheli, and Network Rail has now decided to press ahead with the scheme across the country, having declared the trial a success.

The £95m project had its fair share of early problems.

There have been reports of trains running through stop signals. Drivers have



A new EU-wide computerised system is to replace traditional signals

struggled to see the screens in bright sunlight, and found them too bright at night. Moreover, there was confusion over messages about speeds, resulting in a spate of signals being passed at red. Network Rail says it is now satisfied that the teething troubles have been resolved.

But the process of switching from miles, chains and yards to kilometres and metres has sparked concerns among train drivers about risks to safety, as well as the prospect of delays and cancellations during the transition period – expected to be up to 20 years.

Mick Whelan, general secretary of the train driver's union Aslef, branded the scheme on the Shrewsbury-Wales line "a total mess".

He is particularly concerned about journeys where drivers will be required to switch between metric and imperial

measurements, saying there was scope for confusion.

"It's a waste of money which would be much better spent on keeping fare increases down, and an unacceptable safety risk to expect train drivers to cope with signalling data which switches between mph and kph depending on which bit of track they are on," he says.

"Due to the way train drivers are trained all drivers may have to be re-trained totally and the industry is yet to prepare for this and the impact on all services."

Arriva Trains Wales, which runs the Cambrian line service, confirmed that there were a small number of incidents during the early months of the pilot in 2011, but disputed the suggestion that the change from metric to imperial measures were responsible.

Arriva's Claire Lillie says: "When the pilot scheme for the ERTMS system was being introduced, a small number of incidents were recorded, but these were not related to the change from imperial to metric and posed no risk to the public due to the safety features built in to the ERTMS system."

"ERTMS replaces line side signals, instead a computer in the driver's cab controls the speed and movement of the train, whilst taking account of other trains on the railway."

"This means a driver won't see a red signal but will be given a Movement Authority. If a driver proceeds beyond a Movement Authority the train is stopped safely within a supervised location, which poses no risk to passengers."

## Incidents

She added there had been no incidents since 2012. As one would perhaps expect, the switch to metric has provoked a response from the UK Independence Party. Shropshire Euro MP Jill Seymour says the move is "totally unnecessary, would cost a fortune, and could even lead to accidents."

Mrs Seymour fears it will add to the financial pressures on the rail operators, which have already increased prices above inflation. "There are more than 10,000 miles of rail track in Britain, and drivers are accustomed to calculating speeds in the imperial system," she says.

"No wonder train drivers' union Aslef has described the plans as an 'unacceptable safety risk' which could cause catastrophic confusion."

The directive to replace trackside mile markers with kilometre signs, and rewrite training manuals to remove imperial measures, comes from the European Railway Agency based in France.

The consortium behind ERTMS says it will make railways safer, providing a comprehensive automatic train protection function, which is not available at the moment, and also have the potential to shorten journey times.

## WORKING FOR YOU



Owen Paterson MP

Last week I met Minister of State for Transport, John Hayes MP, to discuss what the Government can do to address the inadequate state of the A5. We had a very positive discussion and the Minister confirmed that there is to be a High Level Study of the A5 corridor which will report in six months' time.

This could lead on to further analysis and work. I have been campaigning for the A5/A483 between Shrewsbury and Ruabon to be made into a dual carriageway since I was elected in 1997 and made it the subject of my first adjournment debate.

The stretch of the A5 running north from Shrewsbury, through North Shropshire, linking up to the A483 into North Wales is the last stretch of TEN status road running between Felixstowe and Holyhead which has not been dualled. It is totally inadequate for the volume of traffic travelling from Ireland and the industrial areas of North East Wales. It is a cause of frequent congestion, disruption and danger.

The Minister confirmed that, in discussions with Edwina Hart, his counterpart in the Welsh Assembly Government, there would be a Cross Border Road Forum which would look at this issue as well as the vexed problem of the Pant/Llanyrnech bypass, the UK's longest running bypass campaign. The problem with the bypass proposal is that 90 per cent of the road is in England with the misery caused by heavy traffic borne by constituents in North Shropshire but the economic benefit is almost entirely Welsh as it lies on the A483, the main trunk route between Wrexham and Swansea.

I was extremely pleased that John Hayes was able to confirm that a High Level Study of the A5 corridor would take place. This could be the breakthrough that we need to see this issue resolved once and for all. Tragically, deaths and injuries affect my constituents disproportionately and it is imperative that this road is brought up to modern standards.

The Cross Border Road Forum is a new and imaginative initiative to help unlock the current impasse on local road schemes which cross into Wales.

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## WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO GET FINANCIAL PROTECTION IN A SECOND MARRIAGE?

**Q:** My boyfriend proposed at Christmas. I have accepted, moved in with him and put my house on the market. I have been married before and received a substantial divorce settlement. I have two teenage children from my first marriage who live with me. My fiancé has his own business and a grown-up daughter with a child of her own.

Although I love my fiancé dearly, in the cold light of day I have started worrying about what could happen in respect of our finances if he died or it all goes wrong. He says once we are married I would automatically inherit everything if he died and vice versa, and if I died first he would take care of my children. I fear that legally there is more to it than that though. What should I do?

**A:** There can be serious financial complications with second marriages, not least because when people enter into a second marriage they have often acquired greater assets than they had the first time round. If there is a business involved, or there are children from a previous relationship, the circumstances become even more complex.

Even if you already have a Will that takes care of your children, it will become null and void when you get married and your new husband will automatically acquire rights to a proportion of your estate, which may not be what you want.

Before you get married it would be wise to get some sound legal advice. It may be advisable to get a pre-nuptial agreement drafted that lays out clearly what each of you has brought to the relationship financially. Once you are married you will need to make another Will in order to ensure your exact wishes are fully reflected.

Further information relating to this question is available from Alison Peters, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit [www.ghplegal.com](http://www.ghplegal.com)  
For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation





## Patients have to pay their own way

THE saga of the NHS will never end until the Government wakes up to the fact that the service is unsustainable as a free service.

People must be made more responsible for their health and their actions.

The only way this can happen is by an initial charge for all services; £10 to visit the doctor, £30 to go to A&E, and £50 to call an ambulance.

To book an appointment £15, and to dial 111, 50p per minute.

Overnight, if this was done, the surgeries and A&E would empty, and the ambulance service instead of running round like headless chickens could respond to those really in need.

One factor has not kicked in as yet. It is that the staff working at this level will start to fail due to sickness and stress. I do not see why they should be subject to the appalling abuse and misuse in their place of work, and be paid peanuts.

All departments would have the time and resources to attend those who do need help. Please do not tell me about the "poor OAPs".

If your car stops and you have to take it to the garage, it is at least £70 to £90 per hour as it goes through the door, take it or leave it!

I would recommend our MPs take a trip to the Irish Republic where they do not have this problem.

What a surprise they will get.

GT INWOOD  
Shrewsbury

## Idea just a pipe dream

OWEN Paterson, MP for North Shropshire, has done it again.

He states we need one super hospital.

Shropshire is a large rural county.

Patients in Shropshire would have to travel long distances.

Mr Paterson, have you thought where would you place this ultra hospital?

What would be the cost and is it another pipe dream?

I don't think you smoke, do you?

JOHN R BROWN  
Shrewsbury

## Let the town councils have a go

ON reading a recent newspaper article regarding the concerns over the future running of Shropshire Council's leisure centres, may I suggest that Council Leader Keith Barrow and his Cabinet offer the running of all the sports centres to all town councils, sporting bodies and working parties in the area.

We all know that Shropshire Council is trying to save millions during the coming years.

So instead of selling off all the family jewels, why not let the above mentioned run the services for the council?

It does not take rocket science to know that town councils can run these services.

For example, Shrewsbury Town Council could run the Sundorne Sports Village.

It could also run the golf course and other leisure centres which came under the old borough council.

Oswestry, Ludlow and Bridgnorth, just to name just a few, could take over these centres and run them well.

Councillor Steve Charmley, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for leisure, has stated a process is now

under way to find a buyer to take over from Serco.

These centres should not go to private businesses.

The way Serco has been running the sports centres and failed is a warning to other companies.

Town councils have got the experience.

So Councillor Barrow and Councillor Charmley let the town councils have a go.

DAVID FARMER  
Former Shrewsbury borough and town councillor for 18 years

## College image dates back to 1930s



Written on the back of this print is: 'John and some of the boys including Dickson at Derwen,' i.e. Derwen College. John Podmore is third from left, Dickson is fourth from left, his best friend. Date must be circa early 1930s.

This photo is from an album in the possession of John Podmore's daughter Jean Roe of Broseley.

## Worries at plans for hospitals

THE news that Conservative MP Owen Paterson is backing a plan for a single A&E unit for Shropshire comes as a worry for us in Montgomeryshire.

Thousands of Montgomeryshire residents depend on health services in Shropshire.

My survey of Montgomeryshire residents shows that people here depend on the A&E department at Shrewsbury Hospital and many have to travel up to 40 miles to get there.

Keeping A&E in Shrewsbury must be coupled with an urgent care centre in Montgomeryshire.

JANE DODDS  
Liberal Democrat  
Parliamentary  
Candidate  
Montgomeryshire

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Readers' Letters,  
Oswestry Chronicle,  
Ketley,  
Telford, TF1 5HU

### EMAIL

letters@oswestry  
chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Time soon to judge career of our PM

DAVID Cameron said that he is happy to be judged on his record as Prime Minister.

One million people using food banks. Largest A&E department closure in the history of the NHS.

Hundreds of thousands of new insecure and zero hours jobs created. Bankers' bonuses protected. Debt higher than under Labour. Botched sell-off of the Royal Mail cost the taxpayer £1 billion. 3.6 million pensioners targeted by cuts. Introduction of bedroom tax. First midwives' strike in 133 years. £3 billion tax cuts for top one per cent of earners.

The big question now is how will the voters judge him in a few weeks time?

TERRY HILLIER, Powys

## Hate is not the answer to all of this

THE horrific massacres going on in the Middle East in the name of Islam are coming closer with the Paris outrage.

Britain's notorious hate preacher is reported as saying that 'Islam carries out capital punishments, anyone who insults the prophets of Islam will be punished'.

Why do we allow him the freedom to incite violence?

Many, quite rightly, will blame religion as the root cause, but there is a world of difference between a true, God-fearing Muslim or Christian too, and these inhuman murderers.

Our loving God condemns murder, these killers are following Satan's orders.

RON JONES  
St Martins

## Sites of interest should be opened

I HAD visitors for New Year and decided to take them to the beautiful border town of Shrewsbury, so rich in history.

Alighting from the train the first stop was to be the Elizabethan Old School (now library) - CLOSED. Then on to the castle - CLOSED. Next stop St Mary's, that jewel of a building with its glorious roof and stained glass, where I thought we could pause for a coffee. CLOSED (here I observed other frustrated visitors rattling the door).

Down to the English Bridge - the footpath to which was CLOSED. Across to Shropshire Wildlife Trust, that resides in the remains of the old abbey buildings, CLOSED. So back up the hill we plodded to Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery. CLOSED. This was on Wednesday December 31. Now in my calendar this is not a bank holiday, as was attested by every retail outlet that was open in the town. However, some of us visit towns of historical interest for other reasons than retail therapy.

The county town is of considerable historic interest and beauty, much of it unspoilt.

These qualities are going to attract visitors and tourists.

That is not going happen if all tourist attractions are closed willy nilly.

IAN MUNDAY  
Llanbrynmair

## EU's policy hit farmers

THE decline of the dairy industry particularly in an agricultural county like Shropshire should be of great concern to us all.

The Milk Marketing Board (MMB) controlled, supervised and managed the milk industry with a gentle guiding hand. UK exports of cheese and other dairy products have been decimated from previous MMB levels and all this is because there is no longer a MMB.

Why? Because the EU demanded that it be abolished and we are all in various ways paying for this draconian diktat.

KEN TYRRELL  
Shrewsbury

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NEWS IN BRIEF

**Credit change at town job centre**  
OSWESTRY Jobcentre is one of 150 job centres around the country that will start taking Universal Credit claims for the first time from this month.  
Universal Credit has been introduced to merge six benefits into one.  
The government says this will simplify the system so that people will always be better off in work.  
Claims will initially be open to single jobseekers. Claimants will get one monthly payment rather than fortnightly ones, mirroring the way most people are paid in work.  
The Jobcentre will be able to access real-time HMRC earnings data to make sure claimants get exactly the right level of support, including topping up claimants' earnings when they are on a low income.  
Universal Credit is already available in almost 100 Jobcentre areas.  
**New year party was big success**  
THE sixth annual new year party for senior citizens in Welshpool has been hailed a great success by organisers.  
Organised by local entertainer Alan Crowe, who was MC for the afternoon, the party featured a host of guest entertainers with a variety of talents.  
The proceeds of the raffle were donated to the town's Stroke Club, Leg Club, Parents Association, Visually Impaired Club, Happy Times Club, and Derby & Joan Club, which each received £30.

# Farmers warned against taking out a pay day loan

**DAIRY farmers have been warned not to be tempted by pay day loan companies cashing in on their cash flow worries.**

NFU leader Stephen James, a milk producer himself, said he knew of farmers that had been approached by companies since news of First Milk postponing milk cheques for a fortnight had been revealed.

By Sue Austin

The company had to suspend its payments for milk to its farmers last month after it lost a contract with Mullers and faced a drop in the price for its milk.

Mr James, the president of NFU Cymru, said: "Pay Day loan companies have been offering to agree terms with farmers. It seems very tempting but the problems arise when those farmers can not keep up the payments and the interest means the debts then escalate."

He was in the region to speak to farmers about the crisis of milk prices currently hitting the members of Montgomery NFU Cymru. The meeting, at the Meifod farm of Montgomery branch chairman Jonathan Wilkinson, attracted both dairy and livestock farmers keen to hear from Mr James about the current problems facing the industry.

The NFU president urged farmers who had financial worries to talk to their banks. "We as farmers de-

pend on our milk cheque. This is a high costs industry and if we have bills to pay and our income has been suspended for a week then it is easy to find ourselves in a pickle."

"I have a contract with First Milk and I must admit, with all my direct debits going out in the days after the milk cheque comes in, it has not been easy."

"The banks have always been and still are the safest place to go for help and advice," he said.

"Don't be tempted by these pay day loan companies. I know of one farmer from Meirionnydd who lost his farm because he took out a loan."

"His debt of £650,000 grew to £1.5 million and he had to sell his farm."

Mr James also talked to farmers about the issue of TB and European CAP payments and there was condemnation of the withdrawal of funding from the Wales Young Farmers' Club.



NFU Cymru chairman Stephen James, left, meets Meifod farmer Jonathan Wilkinson

## Millions lost on gambling machines

MORE than £7 million has been lost on betting machines in Shropshire and Mid Wales since 2013, new figures have revealed.

Punters have lost £6 million across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, while a further £1.1 million has been lost in Powys.

There are 24 shops across Shropshire which have a licence to operate the Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs), with 89 machines in total, while in Powys, there are 30 machines inside the eight licensed shops.

The figures come from the Campaign for Fairer Gambling, which is calling on the government to change the regulations around the machines, which experts say can lead to problem gambling.

FOBTs currently allow £100 to be staked per every 20 second play.

A spokesperson from the Campaign for Fairer Gambling said: "Given the impending general election, politicians of all parties should be aware that voters want them to act to curb the harm these machines cause."

"Betting shops are causing huge problems in communities across the country as people are losing thousands of pounds at a time whilst the shops act as magnets for crime and anti-social behaviour."

"The easiest way to tackle the problem is to cut the stake to £2."

## SPRING OPEN EVENTS

### COMMERCIAL SERVICES FREE TASTER SESSION

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> February 5.30pm - 7pm  
- Oswestry Campus

If you are interested in Hair, Beauty, Catering or Construction and would like to come and 'have a go' on our FREE taster evening, you can do so on Tuesday 24th Feb at 5.30pm. You will need to book your place by calling Reception on 01691 688000.



### MOTORCYCLE / MOTOR VEHICLE FREE TASTER SESSION

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April 5.30pm - 7pm  
- Walford Campus

If you are interested in a Motorcycle or Motor Vehicle Apprenticeship of full-time course and would like to come and 'have a go' on our FREE taster evening, you can do so on Monday 13th April at 5.30pm. You will need to book your place by calling Reception on 01691 688000.



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## Dancing projects appeal is launched

FREELANCE dancers and artists are being invited to deliver classes and work on projects across Powys.

Powys Dance, which is currently part of Powys County Council but which is in the process of moving to trust status, is interested in all dance styles and techniques.

Cllr Graham Brown, cabinet member for arts, said: "Powys Dance works with a diverse range of people - children and young people, adults with learning disabilities, older adults, people living with Parkinson's; all types of people of all abilities and from all walks of life. They work across the county and are seeking to build on the pool of professional dance practitioners they work with in preparation for further developing their work and extending their reach into new communities." The classes will run across the county for people of all ages and abilities.

Amanda Griffkin, manager of Powys Dance, said: "We're interested in all dance styles and techniques - not just contemporary dance but also styles such as ballroom, hip hop and tap too. Millions of people tune in to watch BBC's Strictly Come Dancing and we know there's a great appetite for ballroom and dance in general, out there." To find out more call Powys Dance on (01597) 824370.

# Supermarkets plan sparks concern from trade group

**BUILDING three new supermarkets in one town would have a huge impact on trade and traffic congestion, business chiefs have warned.**

Members of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce believe the plans for a Morrisons, Aldi and Lidl could affect town centre traders.

Morrisons has already been given consent to build a supermarket as part of the town's multi-million pound Smithfield livestock market redevelopment on Shrewsbury Road which will also see the building of a multi-screen cinema and restaurants.

Discount chains Aldi and Lidl have in recent months lodged bids for stores in the town.

Aldi hopes to open a store on land between the Smithfield site and the town's Fairholme care home, while Lidl is planning to open a store on the site of the current JT Hughes car showroom on Victoria Road.

Some chamber members said they had reservations about the effect the supermarkets would have on the vibrancy of the town centre.

Martin Anderson said: "I have got huge concerns about the impact on the town centre and the traffic situation."

Chamber chairman Heather Noble said she was concerned about how the Lidl store, should it go ahead, would affect traffic.

She said: "I know there is concerns. It is already a bad part of the town in terms of traffic."

The chamber was told that despite some of the major supermarket chains revising their programme of new store openings because of economic pressures, the Morrisons store at the Smithfield site does look like it is still going ahead.

Karen Townend, Shropshire Council's principal planning officer, said developers were making progress on the Morrisons store.

She said: "They have done quite a lot of livestock development. The last I heard was that Morrisons were committed to coming. At the moment they are spending money on that site already. As far as I am concerned Morrisons are coming, they are building and they will build the cinema."

## Strengthened ties after event

A FARMING community has strengthened ties with its parish church with a special service and fundraising supper.

Plough Sunday saw more than 100 people in St John the Baptist Parish Church in Whittington see an antique plough blessed by the Rector, Reverend Sarah Burton. Traditionally, the service heralded the start of the new farming year and blessed the land in the hope of a good harvest.

After the service the congregation moved onto the rugby club at Park Hall to enjoy a supper with food from local producers. The evening raised £825 for the church and a raffle raised a further £150 for the Whittington and Oswestry Young Farmers' appeal for the Air Ambulance.

One of the organisers of the event Mark Jones, said the meal included meat from producers, Jamie Ward and Winson Farms and ice cream from the local Foxbury Ice Cream farm.

He said: "The idea behind the event was to strengthen links between the farming community and the church, to celebrate local farming and local produce and also to bring people together."

## Cash idea takes the biscuit



Carol Roberts with dogs Alice and Ellie

A COFFEE shop has raised £100 for a dog rescue centre thanks to the dog biscuits it gives out to its canine customers.

Carol Roberts runs the coffee shop in Oswestry's Heritage Centre, next to the parish church.

Herself a dog lover, Mrs Roberts welcomes well-behaved pets into the cafe and even makes home made treats for them.

"We always serve the dogs first," she said.

"They all get their own bowl of water and are offered a free dog biscuit that I make myself."

In return customers are able to donate to a fund to raise money for the Hillbrae Kennels in Telford which rehomes dogs.

"We had one of our dogs, a four-year-old Westie - Alice - from Hillbrae when she was under a year old and that has been a great success," Mrs Roberts said.

"As well as donating the money from the dog biscuits some of our customers have also been knitting dog coats for Hillbrae. We recently took £100 and about 10 of the coats to Hillbrae. They were delighted."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Safety help for bikers in area

MOTORCYCLISTS in Mid Wales will be offered the chance to take part in a number of activities to try and reduce the number of accidents on the roads.

Powys County Council's Road Safety Unit is launching the initiatives to help motorcyclists ride safely.

Councillor Wynne Jones said: "With 3,400 miles of road, Powys has the largest road network in Wales and motorcyclists come far and wide to enjoy our rural roads. Sadly though, six motorcyclists lost their lives in 2014 as a result of a road traffic collision in the county and in excess of 25 motorcyclists received serious injuries."

For more information call (01597) 826979.

#### Tax in spotlight at group's talks

POWYS Business Networking's latest meeting featured a presentation from a local accountant on topical tax issues.

The group's five-minute spotlight was provided by Glyn and Paul from B2 Business Systems.

The presentation gave advice on how to save money on printing systems and business processes.

The main presentation was given by Graham Bennett from Whittingham Riddell.

Mr Bennett spoke about tax issues affecting business. The next meeting takes place from 6pm to 8.30pm tonight (Thursday). The meeting will take place at LlanSolar & Biomass conference room at Llanidloes.



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The session starts at 09:30 through until 12noon so come along to find out more. Women from black and minority ethnic communities are particularly welcome.

For more information contact Laura on 01743 260189



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## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Window contest launched in town**

A BEST dressed window competition has been launched to mark St David's Day.

Welshpool Town Council said it is urging businesses to dress up their shop windows ready for the judging on February 26.

Robert Robinson, town clerk, said: "The St David's Day window competition has proved to be very popular over the last few years and it would be lovely to see the town's shops and market stalls dressed again on a Welsh theme."

"If any shops or other businesses in town would like to take part in the competition, there is no need to fill in an entry form, just by dressing your window you will automatically be judged," the town clerk added.

**Voucher scheme starts at store**

A SCHEME which helps schools receive sports and cooking equipment has been launched at a supermarket.

The Active Kids scheme has been launched at Sainsbury's in Welshpool.

Customers can collect vouchers in store until May 5 to help registered schools, groups and clubs receive active and cooking equipment and experiences. Mark Jones, store manager, said the scheme is a "brilliant way for colleagues to get involved with schools, groups and clubs in our local area".

# Council says no thanks to village coat of arms offer

Report by Dominic Robertson

**WELSHPOOL** Town Council has rejected the chance to take ownership of a historic coat of arms – because it does not belong to the town.

The council had been offered a five foot by six foot coat of arms for the nearby village of Forden, at its latest meeting.

The Rev Roger Brown, of the Powysland Club, which currently owns the antique, requested that the council take the coat of arms to prevent it being sold.

The item dates back to 1680 and has been in storage for a number of years after it was repaired.

The Rev Brown told the council it is "a very important piece of Montgomeryshire history".

He said: "It is in very good condition, unfortunately it cannot be retained where it is currently stored much longer. We have tried desperately to find an alternative home, the county council, the Bell Museum in Montgomery. We do not want it to go into private hands and in a sense you are our last resort."

"Otherwise we regret we will have no option but to ask the Charity Commission if we can sell it and that would probably mean it would go to the United States. The value is not much, £5,000 to £10,000, but the sentimental value is much more than that."

"Please help to ensure part of the history of Montgomeryshire and Welshpool remains in the area."

However, Councillor Phil Pritchard said it made no sense for Welshpool to take ownership of an item which historically belongs in Forden. Councillors voted to reject the offer of taking the coat of arms by nine to five with one abstention.

## Archive view is requested

PEOPLE are being asked for their views on Powys County Council's archives service before it applies for grant funding.

The authority wants to improve its archive facilities in a new location in Llan-drindod Wells. A survey will be open until February 26 at [www.powys.gov.uk](http://www.powys.gov.uk) asking people to give their views.

Councillor Garry Banks, cabinet member with responsibility for archives, said: "We are seeking funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an exciting new project (Past Collections – Future Directions) which will greatly improve the way we house our records. Before we apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund for grant funding we are gathering views on what people think about Powys Archives, and seeking information about what would encourage visitors and volunteers."

## Pair's marathon challenge



Elise Hyland and Kelly Ward get their running shoes on

TWO women are putting on their running shoes as they prepare to compete in the London Marathon to raise funds in memory of a family member.

Elise Hyland and Kelly Ward will take part in the 26.2 mile event in April following the death of their grandmother Ethel, who died last October.

Ms Hyland, a 35-year-old private client solicitor at Harrison's in Welshpool, said she was inspired by 91-year-old "Nannie Ethel" to take part in the race.

She said: "My nan - fondly known as Nannie Ethel - wasn't just my grandparent, she was my inspiration in life and although life without her feels unbearable, I want to make her proud one last time."

"So on April 26, I will be running the London Marathon with my cousin Kelly."

To sponsor Elise and Kelly, 24, visit: [www.justgiving.com/EliseHyland](http://www.justgiving.com/EliseHyland) and [www.justgiving.com/KWard17](http://www.justgiving.com/KWard17)

## Hospitals consider fines for smoking

HOSPITALS in Wales are considering on-the-spot fines for people caught smoking on site and near entrance ways.

The plans could see hospitals in Welshpool, Newtown and Llanidloes hand out the fines.

Pressure group Ash Wales called the smoking situation "unacceptable" and has urged the Welsh Assembly to enable stricter enforcement.

The assembly said it has carried out a consultation and is now considering how to take it forward, which could include on-the-spot fines. Hospitals in South Wales brought in a ban in October 2013, but there has been complaints with how it is policed.

In the last three months alone, a smoking enforcement officer at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff has spoken to more than 1,000 smokers - including 174 members of staff.

Pro-smoking groups have hit back at the proposals, calling them "draconian".

Simon Clark, director of the industry-funded smoking group Forest, said adding a "fear factor" is not appropriate.

He described the threat of fines as "abominable" and "draconian".

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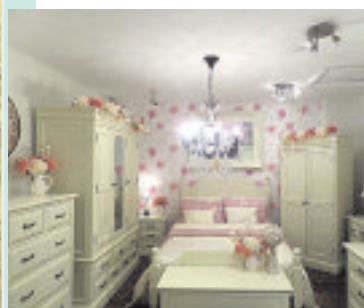
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## Support to victims set to be improved

VICTIMS of crime across Shropshire will have access to specialist support under the terms of a new contract signed by West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner Bill Longmore.

Mr Longmore has agreed a three-year deal with Victim Support to provide the service, which will allow 32,000 people a year to access support – 10,000 more than can currently use the service. The Ministry of Justice has allocated £1.3 million a year for the new services to be provided in West Mercia and has transferred responsibility for victim services to Police and Crime Commissioners, who take over from April.

It will cost just over £800,000, with the remaining money going towards helping victims of domestic violence and other vulnerable victims. Mr Longmore said he is committed to ensuring victims can access help, guidance and information, regardless of whether they report the crime.

He said: "I am very happy with this new deal and what it will offer. It represents better value for money for the public, better services for victims of crime, and access to support for many more people. I'm very happy to be working with Victim Support, which has a long and successful track record in this area, and I'm sure that will extend to this contract as well."

# Civic society is opposed to controversial pub change

OSWESTRY and District Civic Society has joined the fight to save a Grade II listed former village pub from developers.

The society has objected "in the strongest possible terms" to the way in which plans for turning the Cross Keys pub in Kinnerley into houses have been drawn up.

David Ward, spokesman for Oswestry and District Civic Society, said: "In the society's view the application is premature, and should be withdrawn until a complete proposal can be made, clearly demonstrating sympathetic treatment of the heritage asset. The society supports the efforts of the local community to retain their public house."

The planning application stated that the village of Kinnerley was not large enough to support the pub, but Mr Ward said the society members disagree.

"We are unconvinced that a community the size of Kinnerley cannot support a single public house when others in the locality appear to thrive – for example, the Bradford Arms, The Navigation, The Royal Hills; and where others have been prepared to make significant investment, for example at The Original Ball. All have far less surrounding population," he said.

"In recent memory the Cross Keys was 'the place to eat', until a change of management. It attracted full dining rooms, and the local Men's Breakfast had it on its list.

"Whilst the present owner's efforts to attract custom to the pub are recorded, from observation the building and its environs remained in a run down and unattractive state throughout this period, and no reputation for good food were forthcoming." The Cross Keys was forced to close in November after a fire caused smoke damage. The owner, a developer from the Midlands, has applied to build on the pub's garden and wants to divide the pub into two homes.

The planning application says the owner acquired the Cross Keys from Admiral Taverns as a non-viable public house. Last month villagers crowded into the village hall for a public meeting to discuss the plans.

Mr Williams went to Oswestry Boys High School.

He now lives in Cornwall.

## Book tells of Mugabe thugs

A NEW book chronicling the corruption and brutality of Mugabe's thugs in Zimbabwe has been written by Oswestry-born journalist and author Barrie Williams.

"Marshmallow Fishes" is a biography of a former international swimming champion, Kathleen O'Dea, who was captured, held hostage, and abused by a murderous mob of "war veterans" during land-grabbing raids on white farmers in Zimbabwe.

She and pregnant Heather, wife of Roy Bennett, a prominent Mugabe opponent, were forced to watch the horrific beating of Bennett's loyal black farm workers.

They eventually escaped, but Heather lost her baby. Kathleen eventually fled to England to campaign against the Mugabe regime, and now lives in Australia.

"Marshmallow Fishes is already achieving a cult following among expat Zimbabweans all over the world, thousands of whom maintain a remarkable international fellowship through the internet," said Mr Williams.

Mr Williams went to Oswestry Boys High School.

He now lives in Cornwall.

## Alfie in Eisteddfod return



Alfie Boe is looking forward to returning to Llangollen

SUPERSTAR tenor Alfie Boe will be returning to the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod this summer with an evening of music from stage and screen.

The classical heart-throb, who has sold one and a half million records, will be performing songs from musical theatre and movies at the glitzy evening concert on July 9.

Joining him will be Welsh singer Sophie Evans, who went onto star as Dorothy in the West End production of The Wizard of Oz having finished runner-up in the TV talent show Over the Rainbow, classical saxophonist Amy Dickson, and Jonathan Antoine, the classically trained tenor who rose to fame on Britain's Got Talent.

Alfie said he was delighted to have the opportunity to return to the Llangollen stage, following in the footsteps of his hero, the legendary Luciano Pavarotti.

He said: "It's a lovely festival, that's why I keep going back."

To book tickets and for more details on the 2015 festival visit [www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk](http://www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk)

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Businesses get a cash challenge

BUSINESSES are being challenged to take £50 and turn it into as much money as possible in aid of Hope House Children's Hospice.

The challenge, launched by the Morda-based hospice, aims to test an organisation's ingenuity and entrepreneurship.

Businesses will be supported by a member of the hospice's fundraising team to help develop ideas and provide fundraising materials.

Hope House, which provides a lifeline for parents with terminally ill children, will run the challenge throughout 2015.

To take part in the challenge call Hope House's fundraising office on (01691) 671671.

#### Pantomime time at the institute

AMATEUR thespians are preparing to perform their take of the story of Dick Whittington on stage.

Llanfair Players' pantomime this year is Vote for Nobody, which will be staged at the Institute, Llanfair Caereinion, on February 20 and 21.

The show, which has been written by Clive Hopwood and directed by Pauline Bennett, includes a feast of jokes, slapstick routines, songs and colourful costumes.

Tickets cost £6 for adults, £5 for concessions, £4 for children, or £18 for a family ticket for two adults and two or more children. They can be bought by calling (01938) 811355 or visiting Holly House in Bridge Street.

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## Housing scheme gets cash boost

A SCHEME which has already brought 145 derelict properties back into use in Mid Wales has been given a funding boost.

The Welsh Assembly has announced it will spend £20 million improving housing stock across the country, changing derelict or abandoned buildings into housing. Lesley Griffiths, Welsh Assembly communities and tackling poverty minister, said 145 homes had already been created in Powys in the last five years.

Mrs Griffiths said the Home Improvement Loans and Houses Into Homes schemes will each receive £10 million. The schemes bring homes back into use and improve standards.

## Honour is given to tourism chief

A PROMINENT figure in the Wales tourism industry for 36 years has joined an elite band by being made a life member of MWT, the organisation that represents around 600 businesses in Mid Wales.

Julian Burrell, 70, founded and was senior partner in Wales Holidays from 1978 to 2013, acting as a letting agency for 550 self-catering cottages across Wales at its peak.

He was also chairman of the Wales Tourism Alliance from 2002 to 2010, a role that saw him representing the Wales tourism industry in Cardiff and Westminster. Only four members of MWT have previously been awarded life membership.

# Boat charts new waters as reopening plan continues

**TO boldly go - a narrowboat travelled along a stretch of the Montgomery Canal for the first time in more than 60 years.**

The trip boat Heulwen II charted new waters as it gingerly made its way from Belan Locks and Refail, a stretch of the canal between Welshpool and Oswestry with a Canal and Rivers Trust's tug following to ensure it did not get stuck.

By Sue Austin

The successful five-mile journey means that public trips can go ahead from Welshpool to Berriew at Easter and beyond.

It is the latest venture in the campaign to re-open a 12-mile section of the canal, centred around Welshpool to boost the economy of the town. The 200-year-old canal which runs for 33 miles from the Llangollen Canal to Newtown via Welshpool and Llanymynech, fell into disuse in 1936 and was eventually abandoned.

Welshpool Mayor Councillor Malcolm Douglass was one of those on the boat, which is run by the Heulwen Trust which provides trips for elderly people and those with disabilities.

The mayor is helping to coordinate a series of initiatives taking place to restore the waterway, from a Heritage Lottery Fund project which could see the restoration of a dry section of canal, to working with university students and also adopt-

ing a section of canal. "It is clear that the restoration of the Montgomery Canal will bring huge benefits to the people of Welshpool and it's important that we all work together to remove the obstacles to its development. Since my involvement with the canal we have managed to get the weeds and rushes cut between Berriew and Pool Quay," he said.

Pat Ward, from the Heulwen Trust, said he was delighted that the trip was a success. He said: "We got as far as the Horseshoes Pub and then went onto Refail with the tug boat in case it ran into problems. We take elderly and disabled people on trips much of the year round but now we can run public trips from Welshpool from Easter. This will not only raise funds for the trust to maintain our two boats and perhaps buy a third but it will also raise awareness of the scheme to reopen the stretch of canal."



Mayor of Welshpool Malcolm Douglass joins the crew of the Heulwen II for the historic journey

## Promoted group is planning concerts

THE award-winning Ifton Colliery Band from St Martins, near Oswestry, is looking forward to competing in a regional competition in March after being promoted to a higher section this year.

The band competed in the Butlins Mineworkers Brass Band Championship in Skegness in January where, despite a fifth of the band not being able to take part, managed to finish fourth out of 18 bands.

Louise Simons, band spokeswoman, said: "The band were promoted to the third section from the fourth Section, like football, this year and so it presented a little tougher challenge having to compete against bands who are that bit better again from all over the country."

"It was a stunning result for us and one we can build upon when we go to the Midlands Area Competition in March in Bedworth."

"We are really to hoping to come away with first and qualify for the National Finals in Cheltenham in September for the third year in a row."

Before that, the band will be giving a concert on February 28 in Burton Borough School, Newport.

The theme is stage and screen and the programme will include music from Indiana Jones.

A concert in the Oswestry area is planned for later this year.

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Dave Bowkett from the country park with the mother of the baby deer found killed

## Thief caught by DNA sample he left on a bottle

A THIEF responsible for burglaries in Shropshire and Mid Wales was caught after he took a swig from a bottle of whisky at a pub he was raiding.

Police got a DNA hit from the saliva that Jonathan Highton left on the bottle at The Eagle and Spur public house in Kidderminster.

Highton, 36, admitted burglary at the pub in September of last year together with a house burglary at Gilfach Foel, Welshpool, and at the home of a retired couple at Shrewsbury.

He was jailed for two and a half years when he appeared at Mold Crown Court.

His barrister John Hedgecoe told the court: "He was leading a pretty shambolic life-style and drinking too much."

"He took a drink during the burglary and in the state he was in, left the bottle on the bar with his DNA appropriately attached."

Judge Rhys Rowlands said property had been stolen and the landlady was asleep upstairs when the burglary took place.

At Gilfach Goch a woman returned to the family home to find a window smashed, the property ransacked and keys and valuable property stolen.

In Shrewsbury a retired couple went for a short break and while they were away a garden ornament was thrown through a window and valuable property stolen from their home.

The judge dismissed as "nonsense" Highton's claim that he had simply been on a day out when the offences were committed.

He and others had targeted properties in the area, he said.

## Kitten is rescued by RSPCA's staff

A KITTEN was at the centre of a major rescue operation after it became trapped in a tiny gap between two houses.

The inquisitive, male black cat went exploring close to home.

But his nosiness got the better of him and he ended up getting himself in a bit of a pickle.

The cat found himself trapped in a three-inch gap between two houses.

When the cat's owners found they couldn't release the pet from the hole, they called in the RSPCA for help.

Inspectors Phil Lewis and Chris Dunbar from RSPCA went to the scene in Bridge Street, Llanfair Caereinion, to free him.

Inspector Lewis said: "The cat got trapped in a

three-inch gap between two houses.

"I was helped by Chris, who was able to clear debris away from the gap."

"The cat was then able to squeeze closer to him, allowing Chris to grab him out from the gap to release him."

Apart from being a little cold, the cat was returned to his owner safe and sound. "He was an inquisitive cat that got himself into a difficult situation," Inspector Lewis said.

He revealed that he had carried out a similar rescue before in the same location.

"About 20 years ago I was called to the same house to rescue a dog that had become trapped in the same manner," he said.

"That dog was also rescued successfully."

# Young deer is killed at park after suspected dogs attack

A YOUNG deer named Bambi has been killed in a suspected attack by dogs at a wildlife park.

The 18-month-old fawn, kept at a country park at Churchstoke near Montgomery, was killed between Saturday evening, when the park closed, and Sunday morning, when it re-opened.

The owners of the wildlife park said the dead deer was popular with visitors, particularly among children.

And they said they thought the deer would have been attacked by a smaller-type dogs who were able to get into the park, either with or without helps from a human.

Report by Dominic Robertson

Roy Delves, who owns the park with his wife Ruby, said of the dead deer: "She was everybody's favourite."

"Kids would come down there and rub noses with her, she was lovely."

"We last saw her there at about 5.30pm on Saturday then the next time we saw her was Sunday morning at 8am and she had been mutilated and was dead in her bed."

Mr Delves said he suspected dogs had been responsible although he said a person may have assisted them in getting to Bambi.

He said: "We are assuming that on Saturday

night it was a couple of dogs, lurcher types, who did it with or without human help."

"The gate was locked and it is a five bar gate so it would have to be something like a lurcher because they could get through."

"No bigger dog could have done it without the help of a person."

"The most likely reason it has happened is someone has lost their dogs and they have gone down and managed to get in and they have mutilated her."

"There was blood and fur everywhere," Mr Delves said.

However, Mr Delves said he believed there is a possibility that the attack could have been part of "training" for a dog.

Bike and rifle taken

A MOUNTAIN bike worth more than £1,500 and an air rifle have been stolen from outbuildings at a home near Oswestry.

The burglary happened between 11am on Thursday and 5am on Friday last week at Hammonds Place, Gobowen.

A spokeswoman for West Mercia Police said: "The offender or offenders forced entry into two outbuildings. A specialised Big Hit FSR 3 mountain bike and an air rifle were stolen from the address."

"The victim is offering a cash reward of £500 for any information leading to the recovery of the mountain bike."

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## Advertising Feature

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on all showroom items if required. Mr Kinsey from the firm says he will not be beaten on price.

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With such a wide range of furniture being available, The Clearance Depot is definitely worth a visit.

The Clearance Depot can be found on the Vastre Industrial Estate in Newtown, SY16 1DZ.

For more information about the services The Clearance Depot offers, contact (01686) 622954.

## ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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If you've never been to Shannon Sales, it's well worth a visit. We are an established, over 40 years, furniture and carpet store, situated in the pretty village of Chirk (winners of Wales in Bloom 2011). The showroom is delightful to walk around, being set as it is in a Victorian school. The building itself is Grade II listed, designed by A.W. Pugin and built in the mid 1800's.

The business was started in 1970 by a local couple, Sonny and Ann Jones, and is now run by their daughter assisted by a very helpful and capable team of staff. Debbie and Cindy are on hand to give you any help you require with making your purchases. We are happy to lend out both fabric and carpet samples so you can make your choice in your own home. We also happily lend out mirrors, pictures, lamps, coffee tables, nests, even small chests of drawers so you can see them in situ, and thus reducing the chances of buying a white elephant!

Enough about our lovely female staff, what about the men!!! Fred, Mark and Colin have a combined experience with the company of at least 40 years, nothing is too much trouble for them. When fitting your carpet, they will empty your room, take your old carpet up and dispose of it, trim any doors that need trimming, and then replace your furniture back onto your brand new carpet. One thing to remember though is they'll never say no to a cup of tea!

When ordering a sofa or bedroom furniture, the lads are on hand to come out and check it will go in, again avoiding an expensive mistake. These days a lot of furniture on sale needs self assembly of some degree, but no needs to rush for the screwdriver because our prices include any assembly required, so you can sit back and look forward to your new purchase, hassle free. Enough about our wonderful service, what about the goods we



sell. We have an extensive range of carpets on sale from hardwearing, stain resistant Berbers to the best quality Axminsters and Wiltons, many at special promotional prices. We also have several different underlays, and will advise you on which is best to use on your floor. If you want to avoid carpet we also stock a vast range of vinyl flooring which is especially suitable for both kitchens and bathrooms, and comes in small widths, thus minimising any waste. If your budget will stretch a little further, we are also recommended Karndean stockists. Karndean is a vinyl product, which is not only cleaner, warmer and

quieter but is a realistic copy of either wood boards or natural stone tiles. It can even be designed by yourself, thus making your new floor totally unique to you!

If you are finding your old sofa or chair has seen better days, you'll be amazed at our choice of new ones. Again, whether you prefer to laze on a large soft sofa or require a bit more support from your chair, we have everything you might need. Three seaters, two seaters, sofa beds, chairs, recliners, swivel chairs and a large selection of electric lift/rise recliners, we will even bring a couple of lift/rise reclining chairs out to your home for you to try if you are unable to visit the shop.

If it's your bedroom that needs a makeover, we sell a selection of beds to fit all price brackets, and Debbie and Cindy are on hand to advise you on your choice of bed. It is an important choice - you spend on average a third of your life in bed! Also how long have you had your bed? Most bed manufacturers recommend changing your bed every 10 years. We have at least a dozen bedroom furniture displays in store and if you require Fred, Mark or Colin can come out and measure up to make sure you maximise your space. Any assembling required is also free of charge.

Whether you have a separate dining room or just a kitchen, we stock tables and chairs to fit, and if you haven't got space for a dining set we even sell a supper table.

What about an attractive display cabinet to hold all those precious family mementoes and photographs, we have a substantial selection of woods and wood effects to choose from, ranging from light oak, teak, cherry, mahogany and dark oak.

And to finish the new look we also sell lamps, mirrors, pictures, rugs, coffee tables and nests of tables, bookcases and pouffes.

Last, but not least, we have recently opened a nursery department, selling cots, chests of drawers, children's robes, children's beds and beautiful bedding.

So as you can see we have everything you'll need to create the perfect home, and remember our delivery is free within a 40 mile radius.



## Festival for bikes set to be staged

A NEW international bikers' festival will be held in Llangollen for the first time this summer.

Llangollen International Motorcycle Festival 2015 will take place on August 1 and 2 at the town's Pavilion, home to the International Musical Eisteddfod events.

Many of the roads around the venue are already popular with bikers, including the Horseshoe Pass and its bike-friendly Ponderosa Café, and Snowdonia National Park. The site has previously hosted successful bike shows but LlanBikeFest 15 is being organised by a new team of local motorcycle enthusiasts led by Harry Edwards.

He said: "The Pavilion is a fantastic site in a location that is heaven for bikers of every type – on and off road. Riding to the festival and around the area will be a key part of the experience. LlanBikeFest 15 will be a family-friendly festival, celebrating every aspect of motorcycling. We plan to make it an annual event and attract visitors from far and wide."

# Stricken Lonely Tree could still win Europe-wide prize

**A YEAR ago Llanfyllin's Lonely Tree was lying on the floor, battered by storms and with its future looking uncertain.**

People from near and far were worried the tree would not survive after it was so badly damaged in the storms. But a year later, with its roots still clinging on to the Mid Wales hillside and having survived the harsh weather, the tree is now in the running to become the European Tree of the Year 2015 and people are being urged to support its bid.

The old Scots Pine has played a large part in community life for about 200 years.

The tree has been used as a place for celebration and comfort, for proposing marriage or scattering ashes, and now the townspeople are hoping to have it recognised by a much wider audience.

Having been a runner-up in the National Trust competition Special Places in Wales, the tree was entered into the Woodland Trust competition to name the Welsh Tree of the Year, through a public vote.

People from near and far voted enthusiastically and Lonely Tree was declared Welsh Tree of the Year 2014, taking a quarter of the total votes.

And this month the tree is in the running for the 2015 European Tree of the Year Competition, with winners of national contests competing to take the title.

**Report by Pam Kingsley**

Last year's winner, The Old Elm in Sliven, Bulgaria, received an extraordinary 77,526 votes. To celebrate the growing interest in the Lonely Tree, Welsh environmentalist Iolo Williams visited the landmark on Sunday to unveil a stone plaque recording the tree's success.

As part of the event there was a debut of a song performed by Ken and Ruth Powell written especially about the tree.

Peter Lewis, whose family farm on the land the Lonely Tree stands on and who is a member of the Lonely Tree Committee, said: "The Lonely Tree is still alive, still green in places, and it is hoped that the trunk might phoenix, that a new tree may rise from the fallen one."

"The aim of the European competition states: 'We are not searching for the oldest, the tallest, the most beautiful or the rarest of trees. We are searching for the most lovable tree, a tree with a story that can bring a community together.'"

"Will there be a tree in the competition as lovable and with a story that can bring a community together as much as the Lonely Tree?"

"We hope to bring together the community of Montgomeryshire, Powys, and the whole of Wales, in support of our lovable old tree."

Voting will take place until February 28 and votes can be cast at [votelonelytree.org](http://votelonelytree.org)



Llanfyllin's Lonely Tree, a landmark in the area, fell during storms last year

## Safety of children focus of report

CONCERNS about communication, the number of young people self-harming and safeguarding youngsters educated at home have been highlighted in a report about vulnerable children in Shropshire.

But the report also identified a number of positives, including multiple agencies in the county prioritising the safety and welfare of children, and working constructively together to safeguard their wellbeing.

The report, to Shropshire Council, looks at how the agencies work together to protect youngsters.

Ratified by the Shropshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), it said: "Overall, the direction of travel is clear and multi-agency arrangements are good. The children and young people of Shropshire are generally receiving a good service but there remains areas where improvements can and must be made. In Shropshire there are between 150 to 200 electively home educated pupils on the elective home education register each year."

## Star looking for backing



Charlie Fryer-Stevens with Karl Hartey from the Charlotte Harter Foundation

AN Oswestry sporting star is appealing for sponsors so he can pursue his golden dream at the 2016 Paralympics in Brazil.

Charlie Fryer-Stevens is part of the Team GB wheelchair basketball side that won the European championships last year.

The Oswestry-based Charlotte Harter Foundation has awarded the talented basketball player £3,000 with the funding being handed over by Karl Hartey from the organisation.

And now Charlie is looking for more

businesses to sponsor him as he bids to fire Team GB up the medal table.

"When I was 15 I was invited to a Paralympic talent day and I tried many different sports including basketball," he said.

"Immediately the Wolverhampton Rhinos wanted to sign me and I started training regularly with them. I quickly rose through the ranks and have since won every domestic title."

Potential sponsors can contact him at [charlesfryerstevens@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charlesfryerstevens@yahoo.co.uk)

## Hospice receives a boost to funds

HOPE House Children's Hospice, based at Morda near Oswestry, has been given a share of £25,000 by a building merchant as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations.

Huws Gray, which has branches in Shrewsbury and Telford, is marking its 25th birthday by donating £25,000 to children's hospices, and will be holding fundraising activities to raise further money.

The money will be divided between the hospices - Hope House and sister hospice Ty Gobaith, Claire House, Derian House, Donna Louise and Acorns - which are located around the firm's branch network. Senior area fundraiser for Hope House, Eluned Yaxley said: "This is a fantastic start to the year for us. We are truly delighted with such a kind donation from Huws Gray."

## Singer to play at hall

DIRECT from the USA, blues and rock singer Becki Brindle will be playing Welshpool Town Hall along with her UK band as part of her debut UK tour this month.

The gig will be on February 28.

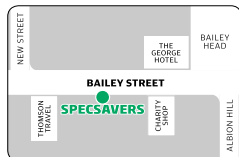
Becki and her band will be supported by local favourite Heather Bebb and her band.

Admission to the event is £10 and people can pay on the door.

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# Figures reveal levels of farmer payments



NFU Cymru chairman Stephen James discussed payments schemes with farmers during a meeting at Meifod

**SHROPSHIRE farmers were paid more than £40 million through a Government subsidy scheme last year, according to new figures.**

The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) has announced it has paid 3,448 farmers from Shropshire a total of £43,373,326 in the last financial year.

By January 28, the agency paid a total of £1.46 billion to nearly 100,000

### Advertising Feature

farmers in England as part of the farming subsidies Single Payment Scheme during the 2014 window.

John Carter, RPA planning and performance director, said: "We are delighted with this performance but we will not be resting on our laurels."

"Our focus now is to ensure farmers who have not yet received their money are paid as soon as possible, while preparing for the Basic Payment Scheme

(BPS), which replaces SPS for 2015." Meanwhile Stephen James, president of NFU Cymru, has heard at a meeting hosted by Montgomeryshire branch chairman Jonathan Wilkinson in Meifod, near Welshpool that farmers across Mid Wales fear they will lose vital agricultural subsidies when the Welsh government changes the way its hands out CAP payments.

Farmers called for the continuation of Single Payment rather than the Direct Payment to Farmers scheme that will run from 2015-2020.

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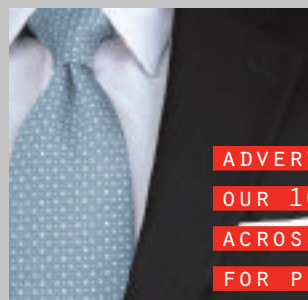
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## Hill walk event is organised

WALKERS are being invited to take on a 35-mile challenge around the scenic Llangollen hills to help beat cancer sooner.

The Llangollen Round Challenge is returning for the second time on the weekend of May 30 and 31 following a very successful inaugural event in 2012 which raised over £36,000 for Cancer Research UK.

Walking book author Judy Smith, from Llangollen, will be helping to lead the walk with Cancer Research UK committee chairman Sandra Woodhall.

She said: "We can promise you a most enjoyable walk in the Llangollen hills with some magnificent scenery. The route will be fully waymarked and marshalled with checkpoints offering light refreshments along the way. Certificates and medals will be given to all those finishing the walk, which can be completed over one or two days."

To enter visit [www.thellangollenround.info](http://www.thellangollenround.info)

# New tourist centre opened

A BUSINESS has stepped in to open its own tourist information centre near Oswestry following council cuts.

The two-day a week information centre at the British Ironwork Centre on the A5 just south of Oswestry, will be staffed by local tourism students, who will be paid for the work they do there.

Last year Shropshire Council made savings on its tourism budget by cutting the hours at the busy information centre at the Mile End complex further along the A5.

Now the Mile End centre is shut on Wednesdays and Sundays.

Clive Knowles, managing director of the British Ironwork Centre, a retail and tourism complex, said he wanted to ensure people had access to tourism advice seven days a week.

"Wednesdays are a very busy day for Oswestry as it is market day and we have so many visitors travelling to or past Oswestry on Sundays," he said. "It seemed wrong that the tourist information centre was not open."

"Now we have forged a partnership with Shropshire

By Sue Austin

Council and Walford and North Shropshire College to have a tourist information centre open here on those two days. The centre will be housed here and will be staffed by tourism students from the college.

"Not only will they gain invaluable experience in dealing with members of the public face-to-face and over the telephone, we will be paying them for the work they do. We wanted to ensure that they gave of their best while they were here and I think that they will do that if they are earning a wage for their hard work."

"It's a unique example of how working together, problems can be overcome."



Council and college representatives and British Ironwork Centre staff attended the launch of the new centre

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Council link-up is given approval

A NEW project which will see council bosses in Mid Wales work with colleagues in another county has been given the go-ahead.

Powys County Council and Ceredigion Council will team up to look at economic matters affecting the region.

The aim of the partnership is to promote and develop sustainable economic development in Mid Wales.

It will focus on themes including property and land development, inward investment and trade, business support services, tourism promotion and investment, innovation and enterprise, local transport plans and ICT infrastructure and exploitation.

## Showtime at hall

THREE Men in a Bow Tie will be performing at a venue near Welshpool.

The event will be held at The Potting Shed Cafe, Glansevern Hall, tomorrow (Friday) from 6pm. Tickets are £10 and are available by calling (01686) 640644.

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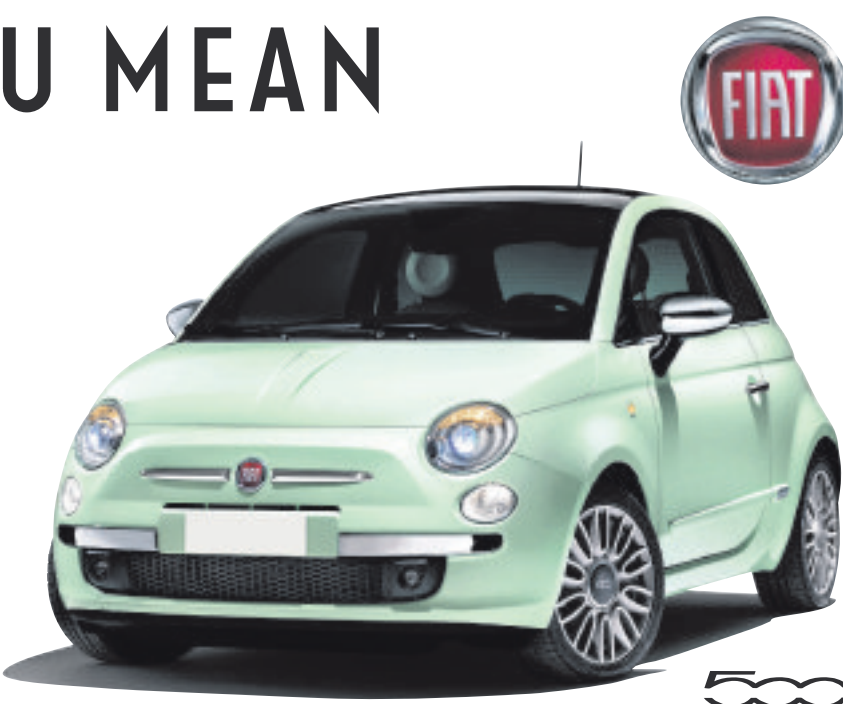
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# ↑Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



## Detached home has a separate annexe

A substantial detached family home which has been renovated and extended in recent years, Greystones, Four Crosses, Oswestry has spacious and versatile accommodation. Also having an annexe and substantial garage block with office suite above, it is for sale through Halls at £575,000. Set in delightful grounds extending to approximately 1.3 acres including formal gar-

dens, a generous paddock and fully stocked orchard overlooking rolling countryside and adjacent to the Montgomery Canal, its accommodation comprises a reception hall, office, family room with French doors to the courtyard garden, conservatory, open plan kitchen dining room, dining room with oak flooring, a staircase, pantry, utility room, shower room and formal lounge.

There is also a first floor landing, bathroom, master bedroom with en suite shower room and dressing room, four bedrooms and a dressing room (bedroom six) accessed via a spiral staircase. There is also a self-contained annexe with a kitchen area, lounge, bedroom and a shower room.

For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit [www.hallsgb.com](http://www.hallsgb.com)



## Detached bungalow sited in village has great potential

With no upward chain, 2 Ashfield Drive in Llanymynech is a two bedroom detached bungalow requiring some upgrading and modernisation but offering great potential. The property is on the market with Town & Country for £125,000. The property comprises hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, sun room, two bedrooms, bathroom, and front and rear gardens. Outside there is parking for several cars. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for more details.



## Fully modernised property boasts a good sized garden

Unicorn Cottage on Middleton Road in Oswestry is a spacious four bedroomed fully modernised 19th century house with workshop and good sized garden. The property is on the market with JJ Dell & Co for £214,950. Accommodation includes lounge, dining area and breakfast kitchen. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a bathroom. The property is approached over a gated driveway providing ample parking. For more details contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.



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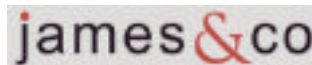
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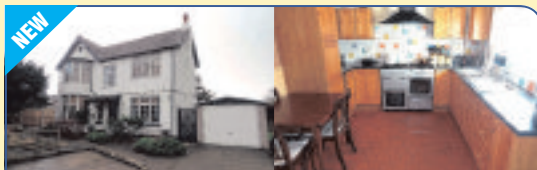


# Unique coverage across Shropshire, North & Mid Wales and into Cheshire



**Holbach Gardens Oswestry** £340,000

- A substantial detached 3 storey, 5 bedroom modern property
- Situated close to the heart of Oswestry town centre
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Living/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- Master Bedroom (En-Suite), 4 further Bedrooms and 2 further Bathrooms
- Externally the property benefits from an enclosed rear garden
- Good size drive bounded by brick walls and ornate railings
- Gas central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating



**Old Chirk Road Gobowen** £219,995

- A large 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home standing in established gardens
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Shower Room, Rear Hall
- 3 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom and Separate WC.
- Private gardens enclosed by mature hedgerows
- detached garage and lean-to. Off road parking
- Double glazing & Gas C/H. EPC Rating



**Cabin Lane Oswestry** £119,995

- Deceptively spacious and well appointed Semi-Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Living Room, Conservatory
- 2 good size Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Close to local primary school, recreational fields, bus stop & local shops.
- Well maintained garden and secure off-road parking
- uPVC double glazing throughout, Gas C/H. EPC Rating C



**Queens Road Oswestry** £325,000

- A superbly appointed 6 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- The property has been completed to a high standard throughout
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Sitting Room
- Master Suite comprising En-Suite Bathroom and Walk-In Wardrobe
- Four further Bedrooms and three Bathrooms
- Front & rear gardens, double garage with electric door & off-road parking
- Gas central heating and double glazing throughout. EPC Rating C



**Aston Way Oswestry** £144,995

- An excellent 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Private rear garden with a timber garden sheds and summerhouse
- Large driveway provides ample off-road parking.
- Double glazing, Gas C/H & cavity wall insulation. EPC Rating



**Brydges Gate Llandrinio** £350,000

- A well appointed and attractive 4 Bedroom Detached House
- Situated in an enviable cul-de-sac location with views towards Llanymynech Rock, Rodney's Pillar and surrounding open countryside.
- Entrance Hallway, Cloakroom, Dining Room, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility Room, Conservatory,
- 4 Double Bedrooms, 2 En-Suite Bathrooms, Family bathroom and Double garage
- Lead lighted double glazed windows and oil central heating. EPC Rating
- Set in a generous plot with a large brick driveway and spacious double garage



**Prince Street Oswestry** £89,950

- Well presented and spacious End of Terrace Victorian Town House
- Living room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Rear Lobby
- Bathroom, Two Bedrooms
- Gas c/h, sealed unit double glazing, EPC Rating E
- Private parking space to the rear



**Castle Street Oswestry** £93,500

- Deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom Terraced House
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room
- Cellar, Kitchen, 2 good size Bedrooms
- Bathroom and Attic Room
- Private slabbed courtyard style garden
- Gas C/Hand partial double glazing. EPC Rating



**Wingate Way Park Hall** £35,000

- A new build 3 bedroom semi-detached property available on a Help to Buy Shared Ownership basis with shares ranging from 25 - 75%.
- Ent Hall, WC, Fully fitted Kitchen, Lounge/ Dining rm
- 3 Bedrooms & Bathrm. Large garden & off road parking. EPC 'B'
- Gas C/H & photo voltaic solar panel system.



**Rectory Terrace Welsh Frankton** £147,000

- A 4 Bedroom End-Terrace Property
- Standing in terraced gardens and grounds extending to 0.22 acre
- Stunning views over open countryside
- Sun Room, Cloaks, Living/Dining Rm, Kitchen, Lounge
- 4 Bedrooms and Shower Room
- Oil C/H. D/G. EPC Rating E



**Churchfields St Martins** £139,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- The property was constructed approx 10 years ago
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility, Cloaks, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Drive & garage with good size rear garden
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating C



**Castle Street Oswestry** £89,450

- Spacious Victorian 2 Bedroom Terraced House
- Double Glazing, New Damp Proof Course
- Complete Rewiring throughout.
- Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- 2 good size Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Large front garden and ample off-road parking
- Good size courtyard with brick built storage shed to rear



**Welsh Walls Oswestry** £109,950

- Deceptively spacious Mid-Terrace Townhouse
- Views of Cae Glas Park and off-road parking
- Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Rear Porch/ Utility Rm
- 1st Flr Bed & Bathroom, 2nd Flr Bed & adjoining Nursery/Study
- Lawned garden & patio to rear, parking to front. Gas C/H, EPC Rating E



**Heritage Way Llanymynech** £119,995

- An End Terrace Property on a corner plot
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Conservatory, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Good size private rear garden with patio
- 2 designated parking spaces & vegetable garden
- uPVC D/G and propane Gas C/H. EPC Rating C



**Albert Mews Oswestry** £104,995

- A substantial 2 Bedroom Terrace Property
- Situated within walking distance of Oswestry town centre.
- Entrance Hall leading into Kitchen, Living Room
- 2 first floor Bedrooms and Bathroom.
- Private garden to rear and parking
- Gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing. EPC Rating

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## Attractive extended cottage used to be two homes

Laburnum Cottage, Gwern y Brenin, Oswestry is an attractive extended cottage in a rural location just three miles from town with very good access. It is for sale through Balfours at £399,950. It has an entrance hall, sitting room, snug, kitchen/dining room, utility room, a conservatory, boot room, cloakroom, master bedroom with a balcony and en-suite, a shower room, family bathroom, three further bedrooms, a paddock, field shelter and garage. The period property was originally two cottages and has been extended to create a wonderful family house. For further information contact Balfours on 01743 353511.

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## Four bedroom property has period features throughout

This is a rare opportunity to purchase a spacious four bedroom semi-detached property. Greystones Court on Shrewsbury Road is situated on the fringe of the popular market town of Oswestry. The property has period features throughout and offers flexible living accommodation including large entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, dining room, cloakroom, boiler room, cellar, four large bedrooms and family bathroom. Externally the property is approached over a gravelled driveway leading to private gardens, patio and ample off road parking. Offers in the region of £295,000. Contact Bowen Son and Watson on 01691 652367.

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## Ideal first time buy opportunity available in village

An ideal first time buy or investment opportunity, 30 Hazel Grove in Oswestry is on the market with Town & Country for £119,500. The property is a three bedroom family home with garage and attractive gardens. Accommodation comprises porch, lounge, kitchen/diner, utility room, three bedrooms and family bathroom. Externally there is an enclosed rear garden with gated access leading to off road parking and a garage. The property benefits from gas central heating and uPVC double glazing. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631 for more details.

**TOWN & COUNTRY**  
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## Property has stunning views over adjoining countryside

A rural detached cottage, Brwynog at Llanfihangel is on the market with Morris Marshall and Poole for £239,500. The property has stunning extensive views over the adjoining countryside. The accommodation comprises an entrance hall, a sitting room, study, living room, kitchen, a bathroom and three bedrooms. Outside pathways and steps give access to the enclosed gardens which comprise lawns, orchard, paved and grass seating areas, attached 'boiler' house with oil-fired boiler, detached stone and timber built sheds. For more details contact Morris Marshall and Poole on 01691 679595.

**M M P**





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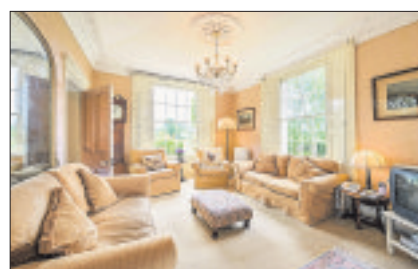
## Family home in popular village has four bedrooms

Situated in the popular village of Llanfechain, 4 Maes Mechain is an extended semi-detached house ideal for family living. On the market with Morris Marshall & Poole for £179,995, the house has oil fired central heating and double glazing. Accommodation downstairs includes an entrance hall, living room, sitting room, kitchen/diner, rear hall and utility. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a family bathroom. Outside there is a gated approach off the fore leading to the driveway running alongside the house and affording on-site parking. For more details contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595.



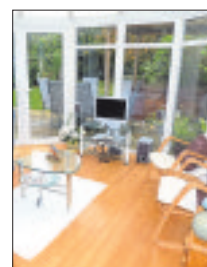
## Home has exceptionally well appointed accommodation

A large detached Edwardian family village house, Sunnyside on Station Road in Whittington offers exceptionally well appointed accommodation throughout. The property is on the market with JJ Dell & Co for £269,950. Accommodation includes an entrance hall, cloakroom, three reception rooms and a breakfast/kitchen. Upstairs there are four bedrooms and a large family bathroom. The property also has a sewing room. The property is set back from the road and is approached over a concreted drive providing ample car parking and access to garaging. For more details contact JJ Dell and Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.



## Rare opportunity to buy Georgian-style farm house

A stone drive leading to an impressive portico signals a rare opportunity to purchase this impressively appointed six bedroom Georgian-style farmhouse Gwernhafod at Gwern-Y-Brenin, Oswestry. It has an attached two bedroom annexe and more than 31 acres of pasture land, along with a collection of Dutch barns and separate large barn with planning permission. It is on the market with Woodhead Estates for offers in the region of £1,200,000. Properties of the quality and appeal of Gwernhafod are rarely available and early viewing is recommended. Contact Harriet Fallon on 01691 680044.



## Substantial family house also has a very large garden

This substantial detached family home 10 Inglis Road, Park Hall, Oswestry offers five bedrooms and a large garden in a sought after residential area. It offers a master bedroom with ensuite bathroom and a further four bedrooms, three reception rooms, conservatory and luxury kitchen. It has a reception hall, dining room, sitting room/office, lounge, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom, first floor landing, master bedroom & ensuite, four further bedrooms, family bathroom, double garage, large gardens and communal paddock. It is for sale chain free and the price is £295,000. Contact Halls on 01691 670320.





# The small creatures that bring on pachyderm panic

AS with most ridiculous fallacies in the natural world, it was Disney who was foremost in exacerbating the fabled belief that elephants are afraid of mice.

This idea may or may not have come to Disney via an old Greek myth that purported a similar phenomenon. Elephants, the Greeks argued, were terrified of the mice running into their trunks.

You would have thought that the beleaguered elephant would simply blow or indeed, sneeze, out the offending rodent, but that seemed not to have occurred to the Greek believers. And yet this fanciful tale of pachyderm woe is not entirely without foundation today. I was once watching a herd of elephants in the ancient swamps of Queen Moremi, deep in the Okavango region of Botswana when, without any warning they all became extremely agitated and bolted. I never understood that mass exodus and there were seemingly no predators in the area nor would they have been shocked by my sudden arrival. But if there's one thing that subtly produces an immediate panic within the mind of the largest mammal on earth, then it is surely bees. Bees have been making the news in recent years. The UK has seen great losses in their populations and the worst natural enemy of the honey bee is a harsh winter. Thankfully last year's mild one allowed the honey bee colony survival rate in England to improve greatly. But back to Africa and elephants. African honey bees are notoriously more aggressive than our species and

## ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



if an elephant ever got a few up its trunk, it would be very unpleasant indeed for both parties. When trying to work out an ethical and socially appropriate deterrent in order to protect rural farms from damaging crop-raiding elephants in East Africa, Dr Lucy King of Oxford University, discovered elephants' hatred of bees.

She set about proving that African elephants will actively avoid the threat of African honey bees. Not only do the elephants run away from disturbed bee sounds but it has also been proven that elephants emit a unique low frequency (infrasonic) rumble that warns other elephants in the area to retreat. These behavioural discoveries were ground-breaking, encouraging the development and testing of a unique application for this behaviour through the use of protective beehive fences around farmers' fields.

The Beehive Fence concept spread like wild fire. Local farmers were happy with no elephants on their land, more crops due to pollination, honey and bee products. The elephants were no longer shot at by angry farmers and were naturally pushed away from such conflict. Conservation these days is often shrouded in stories of doom and gloom, but in a world where people, elephants and bees are so precious, in some areas at least, all can co-habit peacefully.

For details of how you can join Ben in Africa, visit [benwaddams.com](http://benwaddams.com)



The Crossing – oil on board – by Ben Waddams

# Farmers call for action over TB at meeting at farm

FARMERS must be allowed to deal with the badger population to rid their cattle of TB, a farming leader has said.

Stephen James, president of NFU Cymru, made the claim to farmers at an event hosted by Montgomeryshire branch chairman Jonathan Wilkinson in Meifod, near Welshpool.

Mr James told farmers that two Welsh bodies had been contracted to carry out the TB testing on farms and said it was good news.

"They are consortiums of local vets, which means that it will be local vets that will be coming onto the farms, rather than those from outside the area," he said.

Those at the meeting said the TB testing meant their cows were often overlooked by buyers if they went to market in England or Scotland.

Mr James said it was imperative that farmers made sure they had all their records such as pre-movement testing up to date.

"We need to be allowed to deal with the badger problem – legally of course," he said.

"Europe is not happy with the TB compensation scheme, it wants to see the UK rid of TB. What is stopping us is British politics."

Farmers across Mid Wales fear they will lose vital agricultural subsidies when the Welsh government changes the way its hands out the CAP payments, Mr James was told.

Members of the Montgomery NFU Cymru branch called for the continuation of Single Payment rather than the Direct Payment to Farmers scheme that will run from 2015-2020.

They told the NFU Cymru president that without the payments their businesses would not survive.

The Welsh government is currently reviewing the process for land payment region classification for the CAP Basic Payment Scheme.

Mr James said the NFU Cymru would be lobbying for a fair scheme and said that there needed to be "thinking out of the box" to find a method that was fair to everyone.

Llanerfyl farmer, Tom Tudor, said that hill farmers needed the subsidies.

"There should be a single payment for all farmers. It is simpler, there are no classification problems and less administration." Other farmers said land classification could see a farmer on one side of the valley receive one payment and his neighbour receive another.



## Entertainment unleashed

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### Live Six Nations Rugby Union 2pm

England v Italy (Kick-off 2.30pm). John Inverdale introduces coverage from Twickenham, where the second round of fixtures gets under way. With commentary by Andrew Cotter and Brian Moore, analysis by Lewis Moody, Carlo del Fava and Jeremy Guscott, and reports by Sonja McLaughlan.



### The Wonder of Animals 5.20pm

Chris Packham explores the capabilities of bears, who can live in practically every habitat on Earth due to being able to endure extreme conditions. The naturalist examines the adaptations that have enabled the mammals to thrive, including how the hollow fur of polar bears allows them to feed during gruelling winters.



### Take Me Out 8.05pm

Club promoter Seeb from Belfast, barman Ben from Oxford, scuba-diving instructor Will from Preston and tailor Phil from Liverpool all hope to find their valentine among a line-up of 30 single women. Host Paddy McGuinness monitors their progress and reviews the dating action from last week's couples.



### Our Guy in India 7pm

Part two of two. Guy Martin visits Mumbai, where more skyscrapers are being built than anywhere else in the world, and clambers 833ft to the top of India's tallest building, the Imperial. Back on ground level, the daredevil visits a slum where a million people live in the space of one square mile.



### CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 9pm

The death of popular high-school chemistry teacher Chet Messener in a fire appears at first to have been an accident, but the CSIs notice an accelerant was used at the scene and deduce they may have a murder on their hands. Crime drama, starring Ted Danson and Elisabeth Shue.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**  
**10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live.** Brian Turner is joined by chefs Gennaro Contaldo and Anna Jones, and wine expert Peter Richards selects drinks to complement the dishes created in the studio.  
**11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts.** The chef shows how to prepare a relaxed meal, featuring pizza and fast-food mussels.  
**12.00 BBC News; Weather.**  
**12.10 Football Focus.** Dan Walker and guests look ahead to the fifth-round FA Cup matches, presenting the programme from one of the clubs involved.  
**1.00 Bargain Hunt.** Charles Hanson and Jonathan Pratt help teams at an antiques fair in Oswestry, Shropshire, while Tim Wonnacott visits Attingham Park in Shrewsbury. (R)  
**2.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union.** England v Italy (Kick-off 2.30pm). John Inverdale introduces coverage from Twickenham, where the second round of fixtures gets under way.  
**4.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union.** Ireland v France (Kick-off 5.00pm). Gabby Logan is at the Aviva Stadium to introduce coverage of the second match in the second round of the campaign.  
**6.55 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.**  
**7.15 The Voice UK.** The blind auditions continue, and competition is fiercer than ever as places on the teams becomes increasingly limited. Emma Willis and Marvin Humes follow the hopefuls' stories.  
**8.35 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List.** Shane Richie hosts the game show in which two contestants answer questions to win each other's dream prizes. Including the lottery draws, presented by Gaby Roslin.  
**9.25 Casualty.** It's Valentine's Day, but love is in short supply when the staff treat serial child killer Olive Russell, whose prison van has just been in an accident deliberately caused by Susie Reardon, the mother of one of her victims. With both women in hospital, the staff have to call on all their professionalism to remain neutral – but it isn't easy.  
**10.15 BBC News; Weather.**  
**10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the opening fifth-round matches, which included West Bromwich Albion v West Ham United at the Hawthorns and Blackburn Rovers v Stoke City at Ewood Park; **National Lottery Update.**  
**11.35 The Football League Show.** Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the latest fixtures in the Championship, League One and League Two, including Bolton Wanderers v Watford.  
**12.55 FILM: Wake Wood (2010).** A couple perform a pagan ritual to restore their dead daughter to life, but the resurrection goes terribly wrong. Horror, with Aidan Gillen, Eva Birthistle and Timothy Spall.  
**2.20 Weather for the Week Ahead.**  
**2.25 BBC News.**

## BBC2

- 6.30 FILM: A Double Life (1947).** A dedicated actor playing Othello becomes obsessed with the role, and develops a deranged jealousy of his own. Drama, starring an Oscar-winning Ronald Colman, with Shelley Winters.  
**8.10 Fred Dibnah's Age of Steam.** Early steam experiments for road use. (R)  
**8.40 Fred Dibnah's Age of Steam.** The development of the steamship. (R)  
**9.10 British Isles: A Natural History.** The Industrial Revolution. (R)  
**10.00 Six Nations Rewind.**  
**11.00 FA Cup Rewind: Fifth-Round Classics.** A look back at memorable fifth-round goals and upsets.  
**12.00 A Taste of Britain.** Local delicacies, dishes and recipes in East Sussex.  
**12.30 A Taste of Britain.** Janet Street-Porter and Brian Turner visit Cambridgeshire.  
**1.00 Shelley Winters: Talking Pictures.** A profile of the actress.  
**1.30 FILM: The Treasure of Pancho Villa (1955).** Western, starring Rory Calhoun.  
**3.00 FILM: The Desperados (1969).** Western, starring Jack Palance.  
**4.30 Final Score.** A round-up of this afternoon's football results.  
**5.20 The Wonder of Animals.** Chris Packham explores the capabilities of bears. (R)  
**5.50 The Great British Sewing Bee.** The nine remaining contestants must make children's clothes. (R)  
**6.50 Flog It!** The team visits Coventry Cathedral, where Will Axon and Michael Baggot value items including a collection of Clarice Cliff and a trio of watches. Presented by Paul Martin.  
**7.35 How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson.** New series. The American science author explores the impact on the modern world of innovations in six technologies, beginning by tracing developments in cleaning and sanitation.  
**8.35 Dad's Army.** Walmington-on-Sea leaves its mark on a visiting French general when the platoon repaints Lady Maltby's Rolls-Royce just in time for an official engagement. (R)  
**9.05 Simon Rattle: The Making of a Maestro.** Documentary following the conductor over the course of a year as he prepares for a series of concerts, oratorios and operas with five different orchestras.  
**10.05 The Dave Clark Five and Beyond: Glad All Over.** Documentary looking at the impact and legacy of the London band on the American music scene in the 1960s, when they spearheaded the British invasion alongside the Beatles.  
**12.00 TOTP2: The 60s.** More performances from the 1960s, featuring Clodagh Rodgers, the Move, Tom Jones and the Bee Gees. Narrated by Mark Radcliffe. (R)  
**12.30 FILM: Telstar: The Joe Meek Story (2008).** Biopic charting the career of the influential 1960s record producer, who was ultimately brought down by depression and paranoia. With Con O'Neill, Kevin Spacey and Pam Ferris.  
**2.20 This is BBC2.**

## ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Animals 7.10 Sooty 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story**  
**7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled!**  
**7.35 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters.** (R)  
**7.50 Scrambled!: Adventure Time.** Fun for children.  
**8.30 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry.** (R)  
**8.50 Scrambled!: Hulk and the Agents of Smash.** Animation based on the superhero character.  
**9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**12.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**  
**12.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**1.35 The Unforgettable Larry Grayson.** Tribute to the comedian and game-show host. (R)  
**2.05 The Chase.** Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)  
**3.05 Doc Martin.** Al tries to raise some quick cash. (R)  
**4.05 Big Star's Little Star.** With Paula Radcliffe, Simon Gregson and Natasha Hamilton. (R)  
**5.00 ITV News Central; Weather.**  
**5.10 ITV News and Weather.**  
**5.25 You've Been Framed: The Next Generation!** A round-up of the best clips featuring children. (R)  
**6.30 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes.** The finalists – Christina Aguilera, Frankie Valli, Lady Gaga, Paloma Faith and John Legend – return to the stage in a battle for the coveted trophy. Last in the series.  
**7.30 Planet's Got Talent.** Featuring a US grandmother with a knack for hip-hop, a human Ken doll in Russia, a terrifying lesson in self-defence in Nigeria, and Dawn French's encounter with an obscene dancer.  
**8.05 Take Me Out.** Club promoter Seeb, barman Ben, scuba-diving instructor Will and tailor Phil all hope to find their valentine among a line-up of 30 single women. Paddy McGuinness hosts.  
**9.20 The Jonathan Ross Show.** The host is joined by TV double act Ant and Dec, Jonathan Creek star Alan Davies, Hollywood actress Goldie Hawn and Grammy-winning musician Diana Krall, who also performs.  
**10.20 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**  
**10.35 Cricket World Cup Highlights.** Australia v England. Tom Skippings presents action from both teams' opening World Cup Pool A match, held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.  
**11.35 FILM: Balls of Fury (2007).** The FBI recruits a washed-up former ping-pong champion to infiltrate an underground tournament run by a criminal mastermind. Comedy, starring Dan Fogler and Christopher Walken.  
**1.10 Jackpot247.**  
**3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R)  
**3.40 ITV Nightscreen.**

## Channel 4

- 6.15 How I Met Your Mother.** Ted learns Lily has been interfering with his relationships. (R)  
**6.40 How I Met Your Mother.** Ted loses his job. (R)  
**7.05 Trans World Sport.** Interviews with British wheelchair tennis duo Andy Laphorne and Jordane Whaley.  
**8.00 The Morning Line.** Alice Plunkett presents from Ascot.  
**9.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra ditches her old car. (R)  
**9.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray discovers he has been duped. (R)  
**10.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** The Barones' TV breaks. (R)  
**10.30 Frasier.** An attractive gym coach catches Frasier's eye. (R)  
**11.00 Frasier.** Daphne's mother infuriates Martin. (R)  
**11.30 The Big Bang Theory.** The guys make fun of Penny's boyfriend Zack. (R)  
**12.00 The Big Bang Theory.** Leonard and Sheldon fight for control of a project. (R)  
**12.30 Child Genius.** The 15 remaining gifted youngsters face two more gruelling rounds. (R)  
**1.30 Channel 4 Racing.** Live coverage from Ascot, Haydock Park and Wincanton.  
**4.15 Come Dine with Me.** Four contestants from Worcester compete. (R)  
**5.15 The Big Bang Theory.** Amy spoils one of Sheldon's favourite films by pointing out a plot hole. (R)  
**5.45 The Simpsons.** Lisa develops a crush on school bully Nelson, while Homer tries to get rich with the help of an automatic dialling device used by telemarketing companies. (R)  
**6.10 The Simpsons.** Grampa bumps into a newspaper columnist who becomes fascinated with his life and writes a series of stories about him, but Homer becomes suspicious of the journalist's motives. (R)  
**6.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00 Our Guy in India.** Part two of two. Guy Martin climbs to the top of India's tallest building, visits a slum and experiences the arrival of the monsoons on his way to compete in Rider Mania. (R)  
**8.00 The World's Weirdest Weather.** An icicle the size of a house causes a street to close in Canada as contractors attempt to remove it using chainsaws, and a mysterious green haze envelops Moscow.  
**9.00 FILM: The Bourne Legacy (2012).** Premiere. A government assassin goes on the run when his employers try to bury their dark secrets by having him killed. Spy thriller sequel, with Jeremy Renner and Rachel Weisz.  
**11.40 FILM: Sanctum (2011).** A team of divers exploring a system of undersea caves becomes trapped and must find a way through the caverns to the surface. Thriller, starring Richard Roxburgh and Ioan Gruffudd.  
**1.40 The Last Leg.** With guest David Mitchell. (R)  
**2.40 Random Acts.** (R)  
**2.45 Hollyoaks.** Omnibus. (R)  
**4.55 Location, Location, Location.** (R)  
**5.50 Face the Clock.** (R)

## Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Peppa Pig **6.05** Roary the Racing Car **6.15** Angelina Ballerina **6.30** Pip Ahoy! **6.40** The Mr Men Show **6.55** Chloe's Closet **7.05** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures **7.10** Olly the Little White Van **7.15** Bananas in Pyjamas **7.30** Make Way for Noddy **7.45** Paw Patrol **8.00** Little Princess **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky **8.30** Wanda and the Alien **8.45** Zack and Quack **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **9.15** Jelly Jamm **9.30** LazyTown **SpongeBob SquarePants.**  
**10.00 Access.**  
**10.35 The Dog Rescuers.** (R)  
**11.05 Ice Road Truckers.** (R)  
**12.05 Ice Road Truckers.** (R)  
**1.00 Ice Road Truckers.** Lisa ends up in a ditch. (R)  
**2.00 Ice Road Truckers.** A storm brings turmoil to the Dalton Highway. (R)  
**3.00 FILM: Columbo: Double Shock (1973).** Detective drama, with Peter Falk and Martin Landau.  
**4.30 FILM: Columbo Goes to the Guillotine (1989).** Detective drama, starring Peter Falk.  
**6.20 5 News Weekend.**  
**6.25 NCIS.** Harper Dearing is hunted following the attack on the NCIS headquarters. (R)  
**7.10 NCIS.** Part one of two. Gibbs is injured in an explosion while conducting inquiries aboard a ship and lapses into a coma, during which he has flashbacks of his hidden past. (R)  
**8.05 NCIS.** Part two of two. Gibbs emerges from his coma with amnesia, meaning he is unable to provide the team with vital intelligence regarding a terrorist plot. (R)  
**9.00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** A popular high-school chemistry teacher dies in a fire and the CSIs discover he had been part of a secret covenant that dabbled in the arcane arts.  
**10.00 Law & Order.** A dispute over a missing pair of trousers ends in murder – and the ensuing investigation leads Lupo and Green to a businessman working for a shady multinational corporation. Previously seen on 5USA.  
**10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Stabler and Benson search for a teenage boy who disappeared after revealing he had become sexually attracted to his much younger stepbrother. Christopher Meloni stars. (R)  
**11.45 True Crimes: The First 72 Hours.** The rape of a nine-year-old girl is linked to the unsolved murder of a woman in Toronto three years previously when DNA evidence proves the assaults were by the same person. (R)  
**12.15 SuperCasino.**  
**3.10 10,000 BC.** (R)  
**4.00 House Doctor.** (R)  
**4.25 Make It Big.** (R)  
**4.50 Make It Big.** (R)  
**5.15 Angels of Jarm.** (R)  
**5.20 Angels of Jarm.** (R)  
**5.30 Angels of Jarm.** (R)  
**5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)  
**5.50 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)





### Call the Midwife

8pm

A Christian Scientist couple refuse medicine for their newborn baby, leaving Sister Julianne questioning the nature of absolute faith. However, the case becomes more complicated when the parents are accused of harming their child. Sister Mary Cynthia returns and a woman catches handyman Fred's eye.



### Top Gear

8pm

Jeremy Clarkson tests the new BMW M4 at the track, before switching to the German manufacturer's hybrid-powered i8 for a trip up the A1 to Whitby, North Yorkshire. Richard Hammond pays tribute to the 4x4 by attempting to drive one straight up the side of a dam.



### Get Your Act Together

7pm

Actress Nina Wadia is mentored by mind reader Marc Paul, Emmerdale's Roxy Shahidi joins contortionist Pixie Le Knot, TV presenter Matt Johnson is coached by tap dancers Tap Corps, former Hi-de-Hi! star Ruth Madoc teams up with mime artist Les Bubb, and pop twins Jedward collaborate with Jump Rope UK.



### The Hotel

7pm

It's the end of the summer season and Mark prepares to bid farewell to the Cavendish, but he has more than work on his mind as his mum Stella recovers from a stroke in hospital. Hoping to secure his legacy at the hotel, the entertainments manager plans a lavish black-tie gala celebrating local family businesses.



### Cowboy Builders

12.25pm

Dominic Littlewood is rejoined by his former sparring partner Melinda Messenger, with the pair heading to Caerphilly, south Wales, to help James Gardner and Sheri Hall. The couple's cottage was left with no water, gas or heating after their builder disappeared without completing their extension.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast.**  
**8.00 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the opening fifth-round matches, which included West Bromwich Albion v West Ham United at the Hawthorns and Blackburn Rovers v Stoke City at Ewood Park. (R)  
**9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.**  
**10.00 The Big Questions.** Nicky Campbell visits Northumbria Students Union in Newcastle to host more moral and religious discussions on topical issues, with contributions by members of the audience.  
**11.00 Sunday Politics.** The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.  
**12.15 Match of the Day Live.** Aston Villa v Leicester City (Kick-off 12.30pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage from Villa Park, as the Midlands rivals meet in the fifth round of the FA Cup.  
**2.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union.** Scotland v Wales (Kick-off 3.00pm). John Inverdale introduces all the action from Murrayfield, where the second round of fixtures comes to a conclusion.  
**5.00 Songs of Praise.** Josie D'Arby experiences speed dating with Christians who are in search of love, and Connie Fisher explores the history of British Black Gospel music.  
**5.35 BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.  
**6.00 Super Cute Animals.** Gordon Buchanan travels the world to work out why people find certain animals so endearing, from cuddly pandas and waddling penguins to a laughing chimpanzee and a squeaking frog.  
**7.00 Countryfile.** The pros and cons of the hunting ban in Gloucestershire, using pedal-power to exercise foxhounds and how motorway services on the M5 are being redefined for the 21st century. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.  
**8.00 Call the Midwife.** A Christian Scientist couple refuse medicine for their newborn baby – a case that becomes more complicated when they are accused of harming their child. Sister Mary Cynthia returns.  
**9.00 The Casual Vacancy.** New series. Drama based on the novel by JK Rowling, set in a seemingly idyllic village where the locals go to war over an empty seat on the parish council. Michael Gambon stars.  
**10.00 BBC News;** Regional News; Weather.  
**10.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights.** Action from the latest fifth-round matches, including Aston Villa v Leicester City at Villa Park.  
**11.20 The Apprentice USA.** The celebrities are tasked with producing a live cooking demonstration for a steak company, as well as creating and naming a new meat variety pack.  
**12.45 FILM: Stolen (2010).** Fact-based drama telling the story of the search for the kidnapped baby daughter of a New Zealand high-court judge and a prominent lawyer. Starring Miriam Smith and George Henare.  
**2.10 Weather for the Week Ahead.**  
**2.15 BBC News.**

## BBC2

- 6.15 Great British Garden Revival.** Scented gardens and tulips. (R)  
**7.15 Glorious Gardens from Above.** Christine Walkden descends on Norfolk. (R)  
**8.00 Countryfile.** The decline of farmland birds in Leicestershire. (R)  
**9.00 The Football League Show.** Highlights of the latest games. (R)  
**10.20 FA Cup Rewind: Fifth-Round Classics.** A look back at memorable fifth-round goals and upsets.  
**11.20 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** Highlights of the series.  
**12.50 The Great Comic Relief Bake Off.** Sue Perkins hosts this celebrity edition of the baking show. (R)  
**1.50 Food & Drink.** Party food, with guest Ching-He Huang; (R) **Weather for the Week Ahead.**  
**2.25 Escape to the Country.** A couple with a budget of £900,000 search for a property in West Sussex. (R)  
**3.10 Open All Hours.** Arkwright decides Granville needs toughening up. (R)  
**3.40 To the Manor Born.** Audrey tries to foil Devere's plans. (R)  
**4.10 Hi-de-Hi!** Spike's future is mapped out for him. (R)  
**4.45 Flog It! Trade Secrets.** Advice on making money from antiques and collectibles.  
**5.15 Alaska – Earth's Frozen Kingdom.** The short summer of the American state. (R)  
**6.15 Ski Sunday.** Highlights from the alpine skiing world championships from Vail/Beaver Creek in Colorado, including the men's giant slalom discipline. Last in the series.  
**7.00 The Motorway: Life in the Fast Lane.** Construction manager Mark Sutton oversees the £190million redesign of Catthorpe Interchange, which links the M1 and A14 to the start of the M6. (R)  
**8.00 Top Gear.** Jeremy Clarkson compares BMW's M4 with its hybrid-powered i8 model and Richard Hammond pays tribute to the Land Rover. With guests Will Smith and Margot Robbie.  
**9.00 Dragons' Den.** Ideas pitched include an anti-piracy device for sailors, a children's bike horn, a brand of ice-cream with an east Asian flavour and a shopping app. Evan Davis presents.  
**10.00 Modern Times: Welcome to Mayfair.** Documentary about the characters who live and work in the area of central London, from an upmarket resident who dresses in Victorian clothing to a cabbie living in social housing.  
**11.00 FILM: The Quiet American (2002).** A British journalist in 1950s Vietnam befriends an American aid worker, but suspects his new acquaintance is not all he appears to be. Drama, with Michael Caine and Brendan Fraser.  
**12.35 FILM: The Night of the Generals (1967).** Second World War mystery, starring Peter O'Toole.  
**2.55 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** The decline of farmland birds in Leicestershire. (R)  
**3.50 Sign Zone: Holby City.** Sacha learns Rachel has left the hospital to meet Mr Kerrigan. (R)  
**4.50 This is BBC2.**

## ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockers Street 6.10 Bottom Knockers Street 6.20 Bottom Knockers Street 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Animals 7.10 Sooty 7.25 Signed Stories: Share a Story**  
**7.30 Scrambled! Scrambled!** Two hours of children's fun.  
**7.35 Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters.** Animated comedy. (R)  
**7.50 Scrambled! Ultimate Spider-Man.** Superhero adventures.  
**8.30 Scrambled! Horrid Henry.** Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)  
**8.50 Scrambled! Deadtime Stories.** Chilling tales for younger viewers. (R)  
**9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**10.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**11.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)  
**12.35 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**  
**12.40 Harry Hill's Stars in Their Eyes.** The finalists battle to be crowned champion. Last in the series. (R)  
**1.40 River Monsters.** Jeremy Wade returns to Australia's deadly Fitzroy River. (R)  
**2.10 Mel & Sue's Best Bits.** Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins present highlights from this week's shows.  
**3.10 Tipping Point.** Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R)  
**4.15 FILM: For Your Eyes Only (1981).** James Bond has to locate a missing weapons system before it falls into the wrong hands. James Bond spy thriller, starring Roger Moore.  
**6.35 ITV News Central; Weather.**  
**6.45 ITV News and Weather.**  
**7.00 Get Your Act Together.** Nina Wadia learns to read minds, Roxy Shahidi tries her hand at contortion, Matt Johnson becomes a tap dancer, Ruth Madoc teams up with a mime artist, and Jedward practise skipping.  
**8.15 All Star Family Fortunes.** Retired Bolton midfielder Fabrice Muamba and newsreader Ranvir Singh team up with their families in an attempt to win a jackpot of £30,000 for charity. Vernon Kay hosts.  
**9.00 Mr Selfridge.** Frank learns he may be unwittingly complicit in Kitty's attack, Harry realises his feelings for Nancy are stronger than he first thought, and Violette makes her move on Victor.  
**10.00 ITV News and Weather; Weather.**  
**10.20 Perspectives: Sheila Hancock – The Brilliant Bronte Sisters.** The actress explores the work of the 19th-century literary family, setting out to discover what inspired them to write such epic novels seemingly worlds apart from their own lives. (R)  
**11.15 Premiership Rugby Union.** Highlights of the latest top-flight fixtures, which included Leicester Tigers v Gloucester, Saracens v Bath and Wasps v Harlequins.  
**12.10 The Store.** Home shopping.  
**2.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA.** (R)  
**3.15 ITV Nightscreen.** Text-based information service.  
**5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** Guests air their differences. (R)

## Channel 4

- 6.15 NFL: Rush Zone.** Animation about a young American football fan.  
**6.40 How I Met Your Mother.** Barney defies Ted's list of things the friends are too old to do. (R)  
**7.05 How I Met Your Mother.** Ted sets up his own architecture company. (R)  
**7.30 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Debra prompts Ray to perk up. (R)  
**7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond.** Ray adopts a stray dog. (R)  
**8.30 Frasier.** Martin dispenses advice. (R)  
**9.00 Frasier.** The Crane brothers' social standing grows. (R)  
**9.30 Sunday Brunch.** With Vic Reeves, Bob Mortimer, Olivia Grant, Nikesh Patel and Charli XCX.  
**12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast.** Actor Michael Sheen prepares lamb cawl. (R)  
**1.30 The Big Bang Theory.** Howard takes advantage of Sheldon. (R)  
**2.00 The Big Bang Theory.** Howard's stag party leads to a problem. (R)  
**2.25 The Simpsons.** Homer tries to be a better father. (R)  
**2.55 FILM: City of Ember (2008).** Fantasy adventure, starring Saoirse Ronan.  
**4.40 Channel 4 News.**  
**5.05 Location, Location, Location.** House-hunting in south Manchester and Cheshire. (R)  
**6.05 A Place in the Sun.** Sara Damergi helps Hull couple Peter and Julia Andrews find a holiday home in Fuerteventura on a budget of £60,000.  
**7.00 The Hotel.** Mark hopes to secure his legacy at the hotel with a black-tie gala celebrating local family businesses, but panic sets in when he struggles to sell tickets. Last in the series.  
**8.00 The Auction House.** New series. As the goods arrive for the week's sale at Lots Road Auctions, the valuers admire a pair of opulent dog beds, while a regular buyer helps a friend kit out her mansion.  
**9.00 Indian Summers.** New series. Drama set during the summer of 1932, telling the story of the decline of the British Empire and the birth of modern India. Starring Julie Walters and Henry Lloyd-Hughes.  
**10.40 Gogglebox 2014.** Highlights from the reality show, featuring the nation's favourite armchair critics commenting on popular TV programmes as they watch them. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)  
**12.15 FILM: No Country for Old Men (2007).** Thriller, starring Josh Brolin and Javier Bardem.  
**2.20 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA.** An Italian restaurant in New Jersey. (R)  
**3.05 Come Dine with Me.** Mike Aldous hosts the first dinner party in Surrey. (R)  
**3.35 Come Dine with Me.** (R)  
**4.00 Come Dine with Me.** (R)  
**4.25 Come Dine with Me.** A mother-of-five hosts the penultimate dinner party in Surrey. (R)  
**4.55 Come Dine with Me.** Terry Gallagher hosts the final party in Surrey. (R)  
**5.20 River Cottage Bites.** (R)  
**5.30 Face the Clock.** (R)

## Channel 5

- 6.00 Milkshake!** Peppa Pig **6.05** Roary the Racing Car **6.15** Angelina Ballerina **6.30** Pip Ahoy! **6.40** The Mr Men Show **6.55** Chloe's Closet **7.05** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures **7.10** Olly the Little White Van **7.15** Bananas in Pyjamas **7.30** Make Way for Noddy **7.45** Paw Patrol **8.00** Little Princess **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky **8.30** Wanda and the Alien **8.40** Zack and Quack **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom **9.15** Jelly Jamm **9.30** LazyTown  
**10.00 SpongeBob SquarePants.** Double bill. Patrick tries to rethink his life.  
**10.35 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge.** Robson Green heads to New Zealand. (R)  
**11.25 Robson's Extreme Fishing Challenge.** Robson Green heads to the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. (R)  
**12.25 Cowboy Builders.** Helping a couple in Caerphilly, south Wales. (R)  
**1.25 FILM: How to Make an American Quilt (1995).** Drama, starring Winona Ryder.  
**3.35 FILM: Loch Ness (1996).** Family drama, starring Ted Danson.  
**5.30 FILM: Lady and the Tramp (1955).** Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Barbara Luddy.  
**7.05 5 News Weekend.**  
**7.10 FILM: Memphis Belle (1990).** The crewmen of a B-17 bomber prepare for their final mission – a raid on a heavily defended German city. Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Matthew Modine and Eric Stoltz. Edited for language and violence.  
**9.00 FILM: War of the Worlds (2005).** A divorced father tries to protect his two children as alien war machines start to wipe out the human race. Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller, with Tom Cruise and Dakota Fanning.  
**11.20 FILM: Drag Me to Hell (2009).** A bank employee is cursed to suffer a series of misfortunes, and has to break the spell in three days before a demon takes her to Hell. Horror, with Alison Lohman and Justin Long.  
**1.15 SuperCasino.** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.  
**3.10 10,000 BC.** Hunger and sickness put the whole project in peril, and the survival experts and the producers have to decide if they should intervene or call a halt to the experiment. (R)  
**4.00 House Doctor.** Interior designer Ann Maurice visits a cluttered B&B in Wells-next-the-Sea on the Norfolk coast. (R)  
**4.25 Make It Big.** Josh's birthday cake gets locked in a drawer. (R)  
**4.50 Make It Big.** Matt and Jess receive an official warning. (R)  
**5.15 Angels of Jarm.** Virgil gets the blame for breaking a vase. (R)  
**5.20 Angels of Jarm.** Bindi is jealous of Jess's new coat. (R)  
**5.30 Angels of Jarm.** Wendy is scared of Fatima's mum. (R)  
**5.40 Roary the Racing Car.** Drifter's neon light breaks. (R)  
**5.50 Roary the Racing Car.** (R)





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**SHELLY** 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to  
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**ADVENTUROUS** sexy lady, 38yrs, married  
but seeks no strings fun with discreet man,  
any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. Tel  
No: **0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301**

**KATHERINE** 33, pretty blonde would love to  
get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also  
looking for fun relationship with no strings.  
ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416197**

**ANNE**, mid 40's, cheerful busty curvy affec-  
tionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or  
looks for nights at home. Tel No: **0905 002 1953 Box No: 410291**

**FEMALE** fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking  
male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416287**

**DISCREET** lady, 42yrs wants to make you  
happy, come to me and let me do that for you.  
ACA. Tel No: **0905 002 1957 Box No: 409091**

**PAT** 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde  
hair, 25, seeking N/S, sincere gent for  
friendship and days out. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416057**

**ALISON**, 27, busty, shapely lady seeks fun  
only with broad minded man. Aca. Tel No: **0905 002 1961 Box No: 416073**

**ALICE** 36, tall and slim with long brown hair,  
outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intelligent  
guy to share active days and cosy nights.  
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**JANET**, 36yrs Scottish lady, too shy to go out  
but loves to chat from home. Will answer all  
texts. Text Only Mailbox Box No: **4627442**

**DIANE** 37, sensual, tactile and loving seeks  
tall male for interesting conversations and  
cosy intimate nights together. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416085**

**MELANIE**, sophisticated solvent brunette  
with working man of any age, Im 32yrs. Tel  
Only Mailbox Box No: **4627443**

**BRIDGET** 48, voluptuous, seductive and very  
saucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to be  
made very happy in return. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416083**

**LINDY**, new to area, hoping to meet kind  
many of any age, looks unimportant. Im 43yrs  
blonde and petite. Text Only Mailbox Box  
No: **4627444**

**ATTRACTIVE** tall, dark, professional gent,  
GSOH, likes sports, socialising, good  
company, seeking female with GSOH for  
laughs, conversation and maybe more. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415969**

**PAMELA**, married to boring man! Text only  
for fun phone frolics. Text Only Mailbox Box  
No: **4624149**

**ATTRACTIVE** professional widow, 73, WLTm  
sincere caring gent, widower for friendship,  
meals in, conversation and to put a smile on  
our faces. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415951**

**JULIA**, seeks fifty shades of grey! You  
should be strong minded and seeking fun.  
Text Only Mailbox Box No: **4627445**

**KAREN** 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue  
eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving,  
understanding and seeking fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415871**

**KAREN** 50, widow, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft  
5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415767**

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sense of adventure. Can travel and accom-  
modation. Text Only Mailbox Box No: **4624145**

**GWEN** middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes  
theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S  
male. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415785**

**PHILLIPA** 22yrs just left boarding school,  
hoping to meet experienced working class  
man for real life fun. Text Only Mailbox Box  
No: **4624147**

**ASIA** very attractive slim single black 32yr  
female looking for fun times with god time guy  
with GSOH and a real passion for life and  
falling in love. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415837**

**SLIM** brunette 36yrs hoping to meet older  
gent for friendship, fun, maybe more. Text  
Only Mailbox Box No: **4624146**

**SARAH** 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no  
strings fun with broadminded bored male.  
Status unimportant, discretion and mutual  
respect essential. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415821**

**PAMMY** 42yrs, recently divorced and fancies  
becoming a "cougar", Text Only Mailbox  
Box No: **4624148**

**LINDA** uncomplicated female who loves the  
simple things in life, looking for N/S male with  
GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or  
time wasters please. s Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415533**

**PATRICIA** widow 67, likes simple pleasures  
in life, seeking a gent, N/S for  
friendship/companionship maybe more. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415685**

**GEM** 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big  
eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTm  
kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious  
relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415571**

**SYLVIA** attractive blonde size 12 45yr old  
female looking for genuine companionship,  
someone to spend quality times with, enjoy  
music and cosy times together. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415543**

**HOME** alone far too often, attractive bubbly  
fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-  
50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid  
the boredom! Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415523**

**SUE** attractive, independent, confident  
female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good  
books, looking for romantic, sensuous, nice  
guy for nice times together. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415501**

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**KAREN** medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins,  
seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and  
understanding. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429**

**AMANDA** 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys  
the outdoors, nice wine, theatre etc. seeking  
romantic considerate soul mate to broaden  
my horizons. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415391**

**SAM** attractive single mum who really enjoys  
life and likes to be happy WLTm genuine  
single male/dad for mutual companionship,  
dates in/out and etc. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415361**

**KAREN** medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins,  
seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and  
understanding. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429**

**239R** old Asian female, seeks sugar daddy,  
any age for fun and much more. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415367**

**YOUNG** looking female, likes rock music,  
concerts, theatre, seeks Rock male with  
similar interests for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415249**

**MANDY** very attractive, slim single mum  
36yrs, employed, OHAC, looking to share  
some quality times with similar genuine kind  
hearted social male/dad. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415409**

**DIANE** attractive singleton seeks male to  
have some fun with, meals out, cinema,  
dancing and just see were things lead from  
there. Age/race unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415373**

**SHELIA** Asian 20yr old female, very pretty,  
feminine with long hair, enjoys nights in or  
out, seeking mature white male 55plus for  
discreet fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415181**

**MARGARET** 39, attractive active female  
likes animals, reading, meals in/out, seeking  
considerate partner for good laughs  
companionship, shared interests and more.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414727**

**KAREN** 50, widow, likes swimming, horse  
riding, keep fir, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH  
N/S, non drinker, seeks male. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415211**

**BUBBLY** larger than life 28yr old blonde  
bombshell, seeks large built male to fulfill my  
every fantasy! Give me a call: I will totally  
make your day maybe even your year. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414977**

**BARBARA** 38 slim sporty attractive blonde,  
varied interests, single and ready to date,  
seeks kind honest guy for shared interests,  
fun nights out, hopefully leading to more. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414967**

**JULIE** single petite attractive big blue eyed  
brunette, loves cooking a cosy meal in, nights  
out, searching for real love with genuinely  
nice guy. Looks unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414491**

**GOOD** looking professional lady, 56, enjoys  
the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks  
compatible, genuine, professional gent to  
enjoy the good things in life. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415007**

**CATH** 37yr old very bored housewife seeking  
bored male for some fun times. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414497**

**ANITA** seeking nice man in the West  
Midlands, looking for romantic companionship  
maybe more. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413765**

**JANET** tall beautiful brunette, slim 12,  
separated, enjoys life, no hang-ups, wanting  
quality time, friendship and possible romance  
with similar guy. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413415**

**SONYA** slim attractive vibrant lady with  
GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTm N/S  
male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine  
respectful relationship, loving. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413441**

**SOPHIA** very sensual black lady looking to  
acquire a new distraction with lots of adult fun  
thrown in for good measure. Race/age/status  
unimportant. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413399**

**EMMA** petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs,  
likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin,  
seeking easygoing male for fun and good  
times but nothing serious. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413207**

**NICOLA** 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty  
brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring,  
varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to  
40yrs for tic possible fir. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414707**

**EUROPEAN** beauty romantic, caring,  
attractive, looking for loving male to enjoy  
warm loving relationship with, call me to find  
out more. ACA. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413013**

**KAREN** 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive  
brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids,  
seeking special honest guy/dad for poss fir. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413005**

**ROSA** 27yrs sexnoria seeking older  
handsome prince charming to whisk me off  
my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English  
and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412927**

**RITA** attractive blonde with a very kind heart  
seeks special man to share my life with  
Please get in touch if like me you are fed up  
with always being the single friend. Tel No:  
**0906 500 3724 Box No: 411919**

**JANE** 5ft5ins blue eyed attractive curvy  
mature student with happy disposition, enjoys  
meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking,  
seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. Aca.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414229**

**ARE** you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive  
slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and  
fully intends to live it to the full, seeking  
similar caring, patient man. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414213**

**ANNABELLE** 29 slim tanned beautiful  
sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high  
life, Champaign lunches, weekends away,  
seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet  
nothings, Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414191**

**SARAH** 38yr old bored blonde seeking single  
guys up for some good times, chats and  
discreet meals. Looking forward to hearing  
from you. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414177**

**EMS** 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes  
swimming, walking, talking etc. seeking  
honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult  
friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413853**

**NATALIE** 22yrs attractive brunette nurse,  
very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few  
dislikes, WLTm male up to 38yrs to stay at  
home and have some fun with. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413839**

**MAZ** 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves  
music, beach walks, cosy nights with good  
conversation and nice wine, seeks similar  
likeminded male. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 413571**

**KAREN** pretty blonde, short in stature, big  
personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking  
honest, caring male who can make me laugh.  
Nothing too serious just fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412377**

**JEAN** petite female who enjoys golf, days  
out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTm older  
male in his 60's with a good personality and  
big heart. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412591**

**JULIE** really fun loving slim pretty female 38  
looking for nice guy to go out with, get to  
know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411517**

**GWENDOLINE** honest, trustworthy, seeks  
caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre,  
holidays and nights out for friendship. Tel No:  
**0906 500 3724 Box No: 412293**

**DIANE** voluptuous curvy and all woman,  
loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLTm  
nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to  
something more. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412321**

**SARA** bored blonde looking for single gents  
for fun, chats and meals, looking forward to  
hearing from you, don't be shy. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412055**

**EMMA** petite young looking 31yr old  
attractive single brunette, loves walking,  
talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-  
40yrs. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412037**

**TARA** 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go  
all the way up to heaven, WLTm very  
appreciative confident male for adult fun.  
Contact me anytime. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414701**

**ANNABELLE** 29 slim sophisticated well  
travelled interesting sensual fit brunette with  
lots to offer seeks older male to appreciate  
and treat me well. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412177**

**KAREN** slim, tall, attractive 36yr old normal  
female who likes shopping, socialising, nights  
in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 412041**

## Men seeking women

**REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53  
per minute plus network ex-  
tras. Texts cost £1.50 per mes-  
sage sent.**

**34YR** old slim, dark haired, creative,  
adventurous, likes music, cycling and  
photography, seeks likeminded female to  
share fun and happiness with. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 352753**

**MIKE** 50, tall, slim, seeks fun times with  
mature lady, Leek area. Lets have fun just  
with good chats. Text Only Mailbox Box No:  
**4633020**

**PAUL** 56, works part time, seeking nice lady,  
55-65 with GSOH, honest, genuine and  
understanding. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416017**

**MALE** 69, laidback, easy going, GSOH, likes  
golf, nights in, seeking lady, 65-72 for  
relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 416029**

**MATTHEW**, 43 widower, business manager,  
solvent, reasonable looks but lonely. Text  
Only Mailbox Box No: **4624150**

**NICK** 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim  
female for relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415881**

**GENT** 53, 5ft 11ins, brown eyes,  
distinguished, seeking attractive lady, 30-45  
for discreet fun. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415809**

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**45YR** old male, 5ft 10ins, muscular, outgoing,  
adventurous, genuine, seeking lasting loving  
relationship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415873**

**JAS** 40, looking for attractive young female  
for good times and socialising. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415805**

**FIT** 68yr old male, feels 40, looks 30,  
genuine, seeks N/S female 66-72 with GSOH  
to share fun times and LTR. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415787**

**MARK** 6ft, slim, blue eyes, dark hair, seeking  
that special lady. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415697**

**MALE** 47, medium build, seeks female, 40-  
50 for fun and friendship. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415651**

**JOHN** 46, West Midlands, seeks local  
black/Asian female, 30-70 for discreet adult fun,  
can travel. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415591**

**MALE** seeking fun bubbly female, 21-30. Tel  
No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415473**

**GENTLEMAN** retired, N/S, seeking lady for  
companionship and sharing good times with.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415609**

**MALC** 50, seeking adventurous,  
spontaneous, sensual female, 50-65 for adult  
fun and good times. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 415253**

**PHIL** 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings  
fun with younger female. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414991**

**GARY** 6ft 2ins, dark hair, brown eyes,  
medium build, likes nights in/out, seeks  
female, 30-50. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414845**

**SLIM** male, 59, seeks no strings adult fun  
with broadminded mature woman, 65 plus.  
Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414983**

**ROY** 6ft 2ins, late 50's, seeks female. Tel No:  
**0906 500 3724 Box No: 414775**

**SEAN** looking for female to share a coffee,  
pub, clubs and more. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No: 414549**

**GENUINE** friendly, N/S professional, honest  
gent, medium build, GSOH, good heart  
essential, seeks equivalent lady, 45-60 for  
company and conversation. Tel No: **0906 500 3724 Box No:**



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 crystal\_maintenance@live.co.uk

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**Night Out Returns**  
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## Chronicle Recruitment & Public Notice

To advertise your vacancy to our **16,569** readers

Telephone 01691 668095 or email [marcusevans@shropshirestar.co.uk](mailto:marcusevans@shropshirestar.co.uk)

\*Source: ABC

### PA to MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lindstrand Technologies Ltd based in Oswestry, Shropshire, is a manufacturer of quality inflatable buildings and lighter-than-air vehicles, and currently has a vacancy for a full time Personal Assistant.

The successful applicant must have excellent communication/organisational skills, be fully conversant with Microsoft packages and be prepared to assist all departments with general administration duties.

If you are interested in joining our team, please send your CV and covering letter stating your current salary to Claire Williams, Lindstrand Technologies Ltd, Maesbury Road, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY10 8GA or email it to [Claire.williams@lindstrandtech.com](mailto:Claire.williams@lindstrandtech.com)

Further details about the role and a job description can be found at [www.lindstrandtech.com](http://www.lindstrandtech.com).

Closing date for applications is 9am on Monday 23rd February 2015

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# Pulling power at right price

By Tony Adams

**Great value for money is not a term heard very often these days but after a week with the new SsangYong Korando, I think it may just be a vehicle to fit the bill for many people.**

I drove the Korando ELX4, the top-of-the-range model from the South Korean company, which was supplied by county firm Shukers who have just launched a brand new franchised dealership for the marque at Vanguard Way, in Battlefield, Shrewsbury.

While possibly not having the quirky 'Marmite' appeal of the ugly Nissan Juke (I love it!), the Korando has loads of extras as standard, automatic four-wheel-drive, a surprising all round capability in most conditions, and all for just under £20,000. My vehicle was a dark grey in colour but having seen red and white versions, I think colour choice may improve the overall appearance.

With prices starting at £14,999 for the 147 bhp front wheel drive version, even that has a very high specification, the only available extras to order being metallic paint and a stereo/satnav upgrade and this vehicle won the under £16,000 class in the prestigious Caravan Club Tow Car Awards 2014.

My range-topping ELX4 had the lot, a gritty 173bhp 2-litre diesel engine, very spacious cabin, sumptuous heated leather seats, satnav, cruise control, 17inch alloys, privacy glass and an excellent wide-angle

reversing camera matched to proximity sensors, perfect when hitching a trailer or caravan without an assistant.

Safety is covered by stability control, hill-start assist, front, side and curtain airbags together with standard alarm and immobiliser and the choice of a space-saver or full-sized spare wheel, either of which will fit in the boot.

The three rear seats actually recline slightly for passenger comfort, have a 60/40 split facility or can be folded completely flat to provide a huge area of luggage space, with a large rear hatch and flat boot floor to create a very practical load area.

## Windscreen

One unusual feature was the push button screen wash system which gave a simple jet of water followed one wiper sweep, ideal when continually clearing road salt smears from the windscreen, or at the twist of the control arm, a full spray of water followed by three wipes – twice – to ensure a properly cleaned screen.

Out on the road the Korando pulled well through its manual 6-speed gearbox but tended to suffer from body roll in corners taken at even moderate speed and also had an excessive vibration and a droning noise in the cabin when cruising between 50 and 60 mph, which felt as though the wheels were possibly out of balance. Travelling more slowly or at motorway speeds gave a nice smooth ride and the driving position and visibility was excellent, even though the steering could be described as slightly vague.

During the week I used the vehicle as hard as I believe it was intended, carry-



**“The rear seats recline slightly for passenger comfort, have a 60/40 split facility or can be folded completely flat”**

ing several people and plenty of tools and equipment on a wide range of roads and countryside, getting it completely covered in mud in the process, all of which it handled well while returning a good average fuel consumption figure of over 40mpg.

The Korando ELX4 will put torque to the rear wheels only when required to provide full 4WD and has a towing capability of 750kg (un-braked) and 2,000kg (braked), together with good front and rear bumper ramp angles and height clearance to protect against bodywork damage on rough

terrain, making it a potentially very practical general workhorse.

SsangYong provides an exceptional five year warranty with unlimited mileage for the Korando, together with several finance deals, which I believe will give people who are looking for regular family transport or a towing vehicle peace of mind. Nestled amongst an extremely competitive SUV marketplace, in which not much compares for the price.

Shukers' new SsangYong dealership can be contacted on 01743 444500.



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09	JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.2 Diesel, Auto, Black	£7959	£3995	06	MERCEDES E 270 AVANT GARDE, Diesel, Auto, (Private Plate Option)		<b>SOLD</b>
55	JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.7 Diesel, Auto, Leather, Grey, MUST BE SEEN	£4975	£3995	54	RENAULT MEGANE SCENIC 1.5 Diesel		£2295
52	JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.7 Diesel, Auto, Leather, Low Miles	£4355	£3995	54	FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr, Silver		£2895
54	JAGUAR XJ6 Low Mileage, Silver, MUST BE SEEN		<b>SOLD</b>	54	MG TF Convertible, in Yellow		£1395
63	HYUNDAI I10 ACTIVE 1.6k, Red	£6995	£6995	54	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8, 7 Seats		£1995
62	FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC S TDCI, Diesel		<b>SOLD</b>	52	CITROEN C5 1.8 Blue, Superb Throughout		£1750
59	RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE TCE12 4-dr, Grey Metallic, 40K	£5450	£4995	03	FORD STREET KA Blue Convertible		£1150
59	FIAT PANDA ACTIVE EDO 5-dr, Blue, 18K	£3895	£3295	02	RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE, Blue		£1795
57	NISSAN NOTE AUTOMATIC in Blue		<b>SOLD</b>	52	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0 DCI Diesel		£2295
57	SSANGYONG REXTON DIESEL, Low Mileage	£5995	£5450	52	CITROEN PICASSO Blue		£1295
57	FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 2.0 TDCI Black	£3750	£2995	02	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 Red		£995
57	FORD KA Blue	£3595	£2995	P	RANGE ROVER 4.6 HSE AUTO Leather, Excellent Cond		£2695
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08	SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4	£4695	£3395				<b>SOLD</b>
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# CHIRK

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## New SR7 Kia models in dealer showrooms

By David Banner

**New, top-value SR7 versions of four favourite Kia models have become available across the company's dealer network.**

Every SR7 has a higher specification than the 2014 VR7 special-edition models. LED daytime running lights, cornering lights, front foglights, automatic headlight control, privacy glass, UV-reducing solar glass, dual-zone automatic air conditioning and roof rails are the highlights of the equipment additions, depending on model. There are also new alloy wheels and colour options.

This is just the start of a list of new models, facelifts and product enhancements during 2015, spearheaded by a new Sorento.

There will be a new grade '4' version of the Carens; facelifts for the Rio and Venga; an Alpine Edition Sportage and further options with the Soul Mxx and Maxx.

The Rio and Venga SR7 will be based on the respective facelifted models now in UK showrooms.

The Rio SR7 is available as a three- or five-door with an 84bhp 1.25-litre petrol engine, or as a five-door with a 1.1-litre diesel featuring Kia's ISG stop/start system. In each case the SR7 sits between the normal '1 Air' and '2' grades in the line-up.

The Rio SR7 features automatic headlight control, privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate and UV-reducing solar glass in addition to the highlights from last year's VR7 of air conditioning, reversing sensors, a leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearshifter, Bluetooth, USB and AUX ports, electrically adjustable heated door mirrors and electric windows (all four on five-door versions). It has the same premium black cloth upholstery fitted to the latest '2' and '3' trim grades, and bespoke 15-inch alloy wheels.

### Stylish

The Venga SR7 is available with 89bhp 1.4-litre petrol and diesel engines. ISG is fitted to the petrol unit. The SR7 sits between '1 Air' and '2' trim grades and has automatic headlight control and privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate in addition to the VR7 key features of air conditioning, reversing sensors, Bluetooth, USB and AUX ports, electrically adjustable heated door mirrors and electric windows. The upholstery is the striking new Houndstooth cloth with red stitching from the facelifted Venga '1' and '1 Air', with the stitching echoed in the leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearshifter.

The stylish 16-inch alloy wheels are the same as those fitted to Venga '2', '3' and '4' grades, while the one solid paint option (Arctic White) and three metallics (Silver Storm, Phantom Black and Infra Red) are those offered with the latest Venga '1' and '1 Air'.

The new pro-cee'd 'SR7' slots just below the regular 'S' grade, while the cee'd and cee'd Sportswagon 'SR7' fit between regular tiers '1' and '2'.

All three body styles are available with a 98bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine, while the five-door cee'd also offers an 89bhp 1.4-litre diesel.

Every version has LED daytime running lights, cornering lights, front foglights, automatic headlight control and privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate which were not available on the 2014 VR7.

Key features carried over include air conditioning, reversing sensors, a leather-trimmed steering wheel and gearshifter, Bluetooth, USB and AUX ports, electrically adjustable heated door mirrors and electric windows (all four on five-door versions).

The upholstery is black Abstract, also found on the level '1' cee'd and Sportswagon, while the double-five-spoke 16-inch alloy wheels replicate those on the cee'd '2' and '3'.

The Carens SR7 offers buyers the choice of two direct-injection engines – the 1.6-litre GDI petrol unit or the 1.7-litre CRDI diesel.

Both are fitted with ISG to maximise fuel economy and minimise CO2 emissions. This brings the CO2 output of the SR7 1.6 GDI down to 120g/km – the lowest in the Carens range.

Standard premium features include LED daytime running lights, front foglights, automatic headlight control, 16-inch alloy wheels, privacy glass on the rear windows and tailgate, premium cloth seats, reversing sensors, dual automatic air conditioning and roof rails.

Meanwhile the new grade '4' version of the Carens, powered by the 134bhp 1.7-litre CRDI engine paired with either a six-speed manual or six-speed automatic transmission, has been added at the top of the range to replace the former '3 Sat Nav' model.

The manual is fitted with ISG. The extensive specification of the '3 Sat Nav' has been supplemented with Parallel Park Assist, a 7-inch TFT supervision cluster and black headlining to create a genuinely luxurious top-of-the-range model.

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# Ford Focus estate now even better

By Iain Dooley

Hot on the heels of the Focus hatch, Ford has released a thoroughly revamped version of its practical and versatile estate variant.

Unlike with some model updates where it's impossible to tell what's been changed, with Ford's revamped Focus Estate, there's no mistaking old for new here. The first thing that greets you is Ford's new corporate nose – think Aston Martin for the people.

But there's more to the Focus than just some added bling, as the car now packs some impressive safety and convenience kit, tweaked ride and handling characteristics plus engines that are more than worthy of Ford's hype.

In keeping with the Fiesta and Mondeo, the Focus sports a new nose that looks suspiciously similar to something you might find on an Aston Martin. Whatever your view, the bold new snout is a genuine head-turner and does much to boost the car's premium look and feel. And it's this angle that Ford is most keen to develop, as the firm aspires to move its models increasingly upmarket.

As the wagon of the family, you can expect the Focus Estate to swallow pretty much anything you throw at it. The car's low loading lip, easy open tailgate and flat load bay all conspire to make life exceptionally easy when shifting large or heavy items.

## Ease

This versatile theme continues inside the cabin, with both front and rear occupants offered good levels of space. If you don't fancy a conventional people carrier or SUV, the Focus Estate could easily fulfil the bulk of your family-related duties with ease.

It's not down to luck that the Focus is routinely held up as a benchmark when it comes to driver enjoyment, as Ford expends a considerable amount of effort in this department. The car's facelift status has resulted in a raft of detailed tweaks to enhance the experience for keen drivers and boost refinement for everyone else in the cabin.

From suspension and steering changes to soundproofing tweaks, Ford has taken a fine tooth comb to the Focus in a bid to bring it closer to premium class cars costing considerably more.

And then there's the Blue Oval's continued development of its engine range.

New for the Focus is a 1.5-litre diesel to complement the existing petrol equivalent, while a 1.0-litre petrol unit has also been introduced. Load-luggers will no doubt appreciate the diesel's 120 horsepower, 98g/km CO2 rating and the prospect of 70-odd mpg. That it's smooth, refined and capable is more than a bonus.

Whichever variant you choose, Ford has upped the ante with more standard kit, improved economy and emissions plus an impressive choice of hi-tech extras covering safety and convenience.

Plus, with the car's cabin ambience having been raised, the added premium 'feel' is immediately obvious and does much to convince occupants they are in a higher class of car.

If the current crop of compact SUVs and people carriers leave you cold or you need a conventional load-lugger, the Focus Estate is hard to ignore. It can't match the latter for overall cabin versatility, but as compromises go the Focus wagon is a competent, affordable and well-equipped alternative. It'll likely drive better than either alternatives – something the Focus range is famous for and an attribute popular with keen drivers.

This car summed up in a single word: Rewarding  
If this car was a: A labour saving device, it would be a kitchen gadget to do it all  
Ford Focus Estate 1.5 TDCi 120PS Titanium, £22,095

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD Focus 2.0 EcoBoost (250PS) 5 Door, M6 : Urban 28.5 (9.9), Extra Urban 50.4 (5.6), Combined 39.2 (7.2), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 169(g/km). Lowest: FORD Ka 1.2 Duratec (69PS), M5: Urban 48.7 (5.8), Extra Urban 64.2 (4.4), Combined 57.6 (4.9), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 115(g/km). \*Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Freepost Ford Credit. Deposit allowance only available when financed with Ford credit. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for full details. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Cars must be registered by 31st March to qualify. †Test drive any Ford vehicle between 1st February 2015 and 28th February 2015 and save £500 (inc. VAT) off any new Ford car. Cars to be contracted and registered by 28th February 2015. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. All quotations are subject to credit approval. Ford Lease reserves the right to amend quotations in the event of changes to manufacturer prices, interest rates and volume related bonuses. Ford Lease reserve the right to amend quotations in the event of any change to VAT/PII or any other statutory charges or taxes which may become applicable from time to time. Ford Lease is provided by ALD Automotive Ltd, trading as Ford Lease, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Frithponds, Birkin, B15 3JA. ALD Automotive is registered in England No. 987418. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. ALD Automotive is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Information correct at time of publication E&OE.



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123	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
124	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
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129	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
130	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
131	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
132	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
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136	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
137	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
138	Ford Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec Climate SD a/c, alloy	£35,995
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1161	Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto Powershift Estate	alloys,a/c	1/5h	1399
1313	Kia Sportage 2.0crdi KK-2 AWD 5dr	leathergun roof	wast	1995
1414	Kia Sportage 2.0CRD KK2 5dr AWD 7 yr	warranty, leather		2049
1161	Kia Ceed 1.6 crdi L2 Ecodynamics SW	estate, alloys,a/c		1349
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12 62 ford s-max 2.0 tdi titanium 5dr MPV 7 seater, was £17495 £1495
10 60 ford galaxy 2.0tdci zetec auto 5dr mpv 7 seater, alloys,a/c £1369
12 61 Ford Grand C-Max 1.6 Titanium 5dr, park camera,fsh £1249
14 14 Ford C-Max 1.6 zetec Climate 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs, fsh,£1169
07 07 Mazda 5 2.0 Furano 5dr 7 seater alloys,a/c,cd, met £499
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11 11	Kia soul 1.6 crdi shaker 5dr alloys,a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew/f/s/h.....£7795
12 62	Kia Rio 1.1 crdi L1 Ecodynamic 5dr, alloys,a/c, 7 yr war.....£7995
12 12	Kia Ceed 1.6 CRDiVR-7 5dr, alloys, 7 yr warranty.....£7995

12	12	New Kia Rio 1.25 Level= 2 5dr alloys a/c,cd,abs, 7yr warr	\$795
11	60	Kia Ceed 1.4VR-7 5dr alloys a/c,cd,abs, met paint/s/s/h	\$795
12	60	New Kia Rio 1.25 Level 1 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl, 1 owner/s/s/h	\$795
12	62	Kia Picanto Level 1 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met paint	\$695
10	60	Kia Ceed 1.6 crdi Level 3 Auto 5dr alloys a/c,cd,abs, met	\$695
12	62	Kia Picanto 1.0 Level 1 5dr a/c,cd,abs,cl,ew,met/s/h	\$695
13	new	kia picanto 1.0 city 3dr alloys a/c, /s/h 7yr warr	\$765
12	new	New Kia Picanto 1.25 Level 2 5dr alloys a/c,cd,abs, /s/h	\$745
13	13	Kia Sportage kv4 Auto Leather can roof, clim, 7 yr wrrty	\$2295

### OTHER MAKES & MODELS

10	10 Toyota Verso 2.0 TR D4-D5 5dr, alloy's, a/c, cd, met, paint	£965
13	13 Suzuki grand vitara 2.4 SZ-3 5dr, alloy's, a/c, cd, met, paint	£995
10	10 Vauxhall astra 1.7 CDi-16V-Exclusive 5dr, a/c, cd, ew	£695
11	11 Vauxhall astra 1.4+16V-Excite 5dr, a/c, cd, ew, alloy's, f/s'h	£765
13	13 Hyundai i-30 CRi Classic 5dr, alloy's, a/c, cd, met, f/s'h	£1045
13	13 Peugeot 207 1.6 HDi Allure cabriolet coupe 2dr, alloy's, a/c	£1095
10	10 Toyota Yaris 1.3 TR-VTi 5dr, alloy's, a/c, cd, met, f/s'h	£645
08	08 Peugeot 308 HDi 2.0 D GT 5dr Hbk, ew, cd, a/c, alloy's	£955

13	62	Wp Beate 12 131 Hd al dural 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12685
13	62	Honda JZ 231 DSGI dural 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12686
09	09	Ford Focus 14 347V57 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12687
09	09	Ford 2002 12 Lounge 3r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12688
07	08	Renault Megane coupe 150 5r Dynamic 3r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12689
07	07	Fiat Grande punto 2 12 active 5r cd.w/ent paint.acs	ms/	12690
11	16	Seat Ibiza 12 2TDI Euro5 se copa 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12691
11	16	Seat Ibiza 12 120 Tom tom 3r cd.ab.acs.cd.w/ent paint.acs	ms/	12692
09	09	Volvo 940 12 78 5R 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12693
11	16	Skoda Fabia 12 120 5R 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12694
11	16	Mazda 2 215 2 5r alloy 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12695
11	16	Tyda 215 2 3r 131 WTH 5r alloy 5r alloys.acs.cd.ab.t/s/h	ms/	12696
13	62	Suzuki Alto 35 35 5r white cd w/ent 1980 ms	ms/	12697
05	05	Bmw 1 series in grey cd w/ent 05627 ms	ms/	12698
07	07	Ford 1977 107 urban mow low ms cheap insurance	ms/	12699
08	08	Vauxhal Corsa 12 5w 3rd cd ab alloys ms	ms/	12700

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Rate	6.90%

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Total amount payable	£10,439.86
Representative APR	6.90%
Duration	36 months
Rate	6.90%

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Optional Final Payment	£11,120.59
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Duration	36 months
Rate	4.86%

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Cash Price	£22,690
Financed Amount	£17,990
Optional Final Payment	£13,454
Total amount payable	£17,990
Representative APR	0.00%
Duration	24 months
Rate	0.00%

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Amount of credit	£14,593.60
Optional Final Payment	£7,240.64
Total amount payable	£16,204.64
Representative APR	4.86%
Duration	36 months
Rate	4.86%

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Cash Price	£10,945
Amount of credit	£7,952.54
Optional Final Payment	£5,096.54
Total amount payable	£10,945
Representative APR	0.00%
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# Jeep that takes to city life

By Ian Donaldson

**Not so long ago a Jeep Cherokee looked as though it was built from plates of steel bent into a car shape like metallic origami, and as tough as a tank too.**

But no more; for here is a mid-size Jeep for the metropolitan buyer, where form fights function, and wins. This is a car meant to look at least as fast as it is tough underneath.

Faster, actually. Built in the United States it may be, but this latest Cherokee shares important underpinnings with Alfa Romeos and plucks engines (gently modified) from current Fiats – thanks to Jeep's place in the worldwide Fiat Chrysler Automobiles stable.

Why, you can even buy a version without the four-wheel drive function that's been so much a part of the Jeep go-anywhere heritage. That model will save you £2,000 in the showroom and a bit of diesel every time you fill up, but it won't really feel like a Jeep when the going gets tough.

For that you'll need something like the Limited model tested here. It's actually in two-wheel drive mode most of the time, saving fuel when you don't need power to the rear wheels, but switching instantly and automatically when you do.

Even then, you'll be in a car that favours a gentler, more urban life than earlier Cherokees. Today's car has to take on the likes of a Land Rover Freelander or Nissan Qashqai and not yearn to climb the nearest mountain (via a convenient river bed).

The result is a car that's undeniably

handsome outside, with a boldly elegant take on the traditional Jeep radiator grille, and smart and modern inside to a degree that might startle the owner of one of the old slab-sided Cherokees.

Prices start at £24,495 for a front-wheel drive Cherokee in Longitude trim, with standard kit taking in alloy wheels, climate control, electric front windows and the same diesel engine found in the dearer Limited grade car on test.

That one ups the goodies count to include bigger alloys, cruise control, keyless entry, satellite navigation on a big central colour screen, bright high intensity headlights, wireless charging pad for (the right) mobile phones, electric adjustment for the driver's seat and a powered (up and down) tailgate.

## Automatic

You can also specify a more powerful, 168bhp version of the diesel engine and a nine-speed (yes!) automatic gearbox, with the poshest model topping out at £35,695.

A modest set of options on the test car ran to a full size spare wheel for £225 (essential, I'd say on a car that might venture on to rocky tracks), special paint (grey, £625 and easy to live without) and a vast sunroof (£950) that made dull days feel almost spring-like.

And so to the driving experience. Well, the new Cherokee is no sports car. It does the job when asked but without much enthusiasm. The diesel engine hauls the car along with a gruff rumble from up ahead and the firm gearchange doesn't want to be hurried – much like the car itself.

The pay off for relaxing a bit on the throttle is a ride the right side of firm and more



**'The diesel engine hauls the car along with a gruff rumble and the firm gearchange doesn't want to be hurried'**

time to admire a cockpit that tries hard to be user friendly and mostly succeeds.

That means clear instruments (drivers who travel to mainland Europe will love the one-button push from MPH to KPH) that told me of a 43mpg average in a testing week and a sat nav readout repeated in the instrument panel.

A good sound system (DAB included) and proper graspable controls for heating (no fiddling with a touchscreen) reinforced the Cherokee's easy living take on modern motoring.

## TESTED

**Jeep Cherokee 2.0 Limited 140 4x4**

**Engine:** 138bhp diesel

**Warranty:** Three years or 60,000 miles

**Economy:** The Cherokee can do 50.4mpg

**Insurance group:** 27

**Price:** £33,195



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PLACINGS									
J.C. Dyke - Oswestry & District Table Tennis									
League									
DIVISION 1									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Caerslwyn A	10	5	3	0	75	30	64		
Morda	10	5	3	0	60	40	50		
Morda Exiles	9	5	2	2	56	34	47		
Morda Tigers	9	5	0	4	52	38	41		
Wynnstay Llan	11	1	0	9	22	78	22		
Critfins A	11	1	0	9	22	78	22		

Merioneth Regional									
Football League									
PREMIER DIVISION									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Telford Jrs	16	7	0	9	50	14	42		
FC Oswestry T	17	10	2	5	42	22	32		
FC Hordle	17	9	5	3	43	27	32		
Whitchurch A	16	10	2	4	42	24	32		
AFC B'north Res	17	9	7	3	34	28	32		
Allscott	17	7	6	4	41	29	27		
Childs Ercall	18	7	4	7	45	33	25		
Shifnal United	17	6	6	6	35	29	24		
W'ton Ams Res	13	6	3	4	26	20	21		
Church Stretton	20	6	3	11	36	32	21		
Wroxeter Rovers	15	6	1	8	42	33	19		
Kelley Bank Utd	15	6	1	8	34	42	19		
Pres	20	4	4	12	33	46	16		
Madeley Sports	18	3	3	12	27	61	12		
Weston Rhytn	11	0	0	11	4	77	0		

DIVISION 1									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
AFC Brosley	15	13	0	2	59	13	39		
Donn C SS	14	9	2	3	54	36	29		
Wrock Wood	11	9	1	1	42	14	28		
Rock Rovers	15	8	1	6	51	37	25		
Bishops Castle	16	7	1	8	33	38	22		
Clee Hill United	13	6	2	5	33	25	20		
Brown Clee	13	5	2	6	23	39	17		
AFC Wellington	15	5	1	9	38	47	16		
Wrock Wd Jrs	16	3	5	8	27	47	14		
Claverley	14	3	1	10	30	54	10		
Oskengates R	16	2	2	12	17	57	8		

DIVISION 2									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Highley MW	17	15	0	2	109	14	45		
Stoke Heath	17	14	1	2	87	27	43		
Gobowen Celtic	16	11	1	4	95	25	34		
Spaig Brit	15	8	2	5	52	36	26		
Bellvidere	15	8	1	6	54	40	25		
Shifnal Harriers	17	6	6	5	47	42	24		
St Martins Vill	16	5	2	9	52	56	17		
Riverside	16	4	5	7	42	47	17		
Albington Jrs	16	4	3	9	47	48	15		
AFC Brosley R14	14	4	5	29	25	5	17		
Whitchurch AR	15	2	4	9	30	53	10		
Dens	16	0	0	16	10	124	0		

Spar Mid Wales League									
DIVISION 1									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Llanfair Utd	19	13	2	0	82	27	53		
Pentfryncoch	17	11	4	2	41	17	37		
Carno	20	10	4	6	51	34	30		
Rhosgob	17	9	5	3	38	32	32		
Llanrhaeadr	15	15	2	4	42	28	42		
Waterloo	20	8	5	7	51	42	29		
Welshpool	20	7	7	6	41	45	28		
Llansantffraid	20	8	4	8	35	41	28		
Bow Street	19	7	7	7	38	41	28		
Four Crosses	21	7	4	10	40	45	25		
Aberaron	19	7	3	9	41	45	24		
Tywyn Brynau	19	3	10	13	39	55	21		
Machynlleth	20	6	3	11	34	50	21		
Berriew	21	5	11	13	30	50	20		
Montgomery	20	4	4	12	35	40	16		
Aber Uni	17	1	0	16	19	64	3		

DIVISION 2									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Hay St Marys	17	15	0	2	86	34	45		
Knighton	16	14	1	1	76	13	43		
Kerry	15	12	0	3	43	12	36		
Abermule	16	10	0	6	61	35	30		
Builth Wells	18	9	3	6	47	30	30		
Churchstoke	18	9	4	6	60	25	30		
Borth Utd	15	8	0	7	36	35	24		
Bont	17	7	1	9	40	43	22		
Dyffryn Banw	16	5	2	9	32	43	17		
N'bridge-on-Wye	19	4	1	14	24	58	15		
Presteigne	14	4	2	8	35	55	14		
Pennybont	16	3	0	13	34	61	9		
Talgarth	19	3	0	16	25	106	6		

Wheatland Indoor Cricket									
Division one: Bomere Heath 92-3 (H.Dawson 25 n.o., L.Thompson 25 n.o.), Cae Glas 94-0 (G.Edgerton 25 n.o., R.Nimantha 18 n.o., S.Eyres 15 n.o.), Cae Glas won by 6 wickets; Alberrbury 75 (M.Jones 45, M.Grover 2-12), Willey 77-3 (S.Walters 27 n.o., R.Plant 24 n.o.), Willey won by 3 wickets; Grasshoppers 119-5 (Joe Yapp 43 n.o., J.Edwards 29, E.Davies 15, M.Farr 3-27), Conderoff 42 (A.Williams 4-10), Grasshoppers won by 77 runs.									
Division two: Beacons 103 (M.Clinton 27, Y.Pugh 50, A.Lloyd 2-9), Rough & Tumblers 97-3 (T.Prince 26, M.Cliffe 2-12), Beacons won by 6 runs; Gound 101 (U.Cass 38, T.Bod 19, T.Quereshi 2-26, D.Watts 2-20), Church Stretton 74-4 (P.Lee 20, A.Kinsey 2-20), Gound won by 27 runs; Grove 84-4 (S.Jones 19 n.o., L.Shakeshaft 21, M.Davies 2-10), Shelton 85-4 (Z.Mellor 16, J.Brown 2-10), Shelton won by 2 wickets.									

DIVISION 1									
	P	W	T	L	Pts				
Grasshoppers	9	9	0	0	54				
Willey	9	6	0	3	36				
Conderoff	9	6	0	3	36				
Bomere Heath	9	3	0	6	18				
Alberrbury	9	1	0	8	6				
Cae Glas	9	0	1	8	6				

DIVISION 2									
	P	W	T	L	Pts				
Shelton	9	9	0	0	54				
Gound	8	6	0	2	36				
Beacon	4	0	5	24	4				
Grove	8	3	0	5	18				
Church Stretton	9	2	0	7	12				
Rough & Tblers	9	2	0	7	12				

Shropshire Chess League									
DIVISION 1									
	P	W	T	L	F	A	Pts		
Priorse Lions A	8	7	1	0	27	13	15		
Newport A	9	5	1	3	27	18	11		
Wellington A	8	3	3	2	42	32	5		
Oswestry A	8	3	3	2	46	19	9		
Oswestry A	8	2	1	5	52	53	5		
Telford A	8	2	1	5	15	25	5		
Shrewsbury A	8	2	0	6	16	24	4		

DIVISION 2									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Telford B	7	4	2	1	22	13	10		
Shrewsbury B	7	4	2	1	21	14	10		
Church Stretton AS	7	4	0	1	17	8	8		
Telford C	7	4	2	1	31	52	7		
Priorse Lions B	7	4	2	1	17	18	6		
Telford C	5	2	2	3	17	51	2		
Wellington B	5	0	4	8	17	1	1		

DIVISION 3									
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		
Church Stretton B8	7	2	0	27	9	16			
Newport B	8	2	0	27	9	16			
Priorse Lions C	8	2	0	3	16	16			
Newport C	9	4	0	5	52	50	8		
Telford C	9	4	0	5	14	18	6		
Oswestry B	8	0	3	6	14	18	6		
Newport Juniors	7	0	1	6	7	52	1		

# Morda merrier after fine away-day victory

MORDA United battled against all the odds to maintain their unbeaten record in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division two with a 1-0 victory away to Newtown Wanderers.

With just 10 fit players from the first minute, Morda took the lead on the stroke of half time through Emlyn Williams.

A robust tackle forced Williams to leave the field immediately after the break and, with several other players carrying injuries, a superb battling performance enabled Col-in Turner's men to keep their goal intact and claim victory.

Work commitments and late withdrawals saw Morda reach Newtown with a bare 11 players, but their task was made more difficult when Elliot Eaton took a knock on his

ankle in the first minute and was forced to leave the field.

After treatment, Eaton bravely returned to the pitch and, though clearly limping, managed to occupy his marker in a wide midfield role.

Both sides struggled on a pitch that been frost bound earlier in the day, with skipper Austin Oliver and striker Sam Davies prominent for the home side.

## Control

For the visitors, Danny Owen went close after good work by debutant Harry Davies and Emlyn Williams.

Newtown had the ball in the net after eight minutes only to see their effort disallowed following an offside flag from their

own linesman.

Morda striker Emlyn Williams, who was the victim of several robust challenges, went close with a back heeled effort as his side began to take control, while George Turner then went close with a shot.

The Morda defence looked solid with Mike Jones and Steve Bishton coping well with the difficult conditions while Danny Owen and Callum Hughes worked hard in midfield to cover for the limping Eaton.

After forcing a series of corners, Morda finally made their supremacy count when a Harry Davies corner found Williams who showed great control to turn and fire home in first half stoppage time.

Straight from the restart Williams was on the receiving end of another strong

challenge and had to leave the field with a shoulder injury.

This left Morda with 10 men on the pitch, at least three of whom were struggling with injuries.

Spurred on by their manager Colin Turner, Morda showed their true battling qualities keeping the visitors at bay.

They even went close to doubling their lead when both Harry Davies and George Turner went close late in the game.

On Saturday Morda have their first of two successive home fixtures when they entertain Welshpool Town Reserves (2pm).

The following week, they host a potentially entertaining match when title rivals and near neighbours Llanymynech will be the visitors.

# Saints let points slip after late equaliser

ST MARTINS remain in second place in the West Midlands League Division One - but would have been disappointed to only draw 3-3 at lowly Team Dudley.

Having defeated their opponents 7-3 a few weeks back, the Saints had enough chances to have returned with the spoils but were denied by a deflected strike from Steve Whitehouse two minutes from time.

The game had been in doubt following overnight frost, and the Dudley hosts adapted to the conditions better with the Saints struggling to keep their footing.

Miles Nettleford hit the bar for the home side early on, while at the other end Shaw Melusi brought a fine save from keeper Josh Davies and Dan Graham fired wide.

However, Graham put the Saints ahead on 15 minutes when driving in the rebound after his initial shot had rattled the bar.

Five minutes later, it was 2-0 when Melusi headed in a cross from Adam Dwyer, while the visitors had enough chances to have been further clear.

But Team Dudley hit back two minutes from half-time when Mitch Blackham headed in a free kick, and they equalised seven minutes after the break. Keeper George Austin parried a fierce 20-yard strike but Ryan Spittle converted the loose ball.

However, Melusi restored the Saints lead on 75 minutes when converting in a scramble following Karl Bailey's right-wing cross, and Graham went close to a fourth when being denied by an excellent save.

Team Dudley kept battling all the way and regained parity in the closing moments when Whitehouse's shot took a wicked deflection off a defender and flew past keeper Bailey.

The draw means that Ryan Butcher's side are eight points adrift of leaders Bromyard Town, with a game in hand, and they will be out to get back to winning ways with a trip to Hereford to face Barmston on Saturday.

Behind St Martins, just two points separate third to sixth places, with third-placed AFC Ludlow a point adrift but having played three more games.

# Plucky Llanrhaeadr see historic cup run ended

## Llanrhaeadr 2 Rhyl 4

LLANRHAEDR'S Welsh Cup dream may have ended - but the villagers went out with heads held high following a plucky fourth round defeat against Welsh Premier big guns Rhyl.

Having reached the last 16 of the prestigious cup for the first time in the club's history, Llan were determined to make the most of their big day in the limelight in front of a 350-strong crowd.

And they gave as good as they got before finally falling short despite a spirited

ish against a Rhyl side who themselves are four times winners of the competition.

A hat-trick from Mark Cadwallader, his third goal from the penalty spot, saw the visitors through after new signing Ashley Ruane had got the opener.

Player boss Marc Griffiths and Tom



## High fives from Royle as ladies smash nine

THIRD placed Oswestry Ladies were on cloud nine after launching a goal spree against visiting Crewe Vagrants to maintain their fine form in the Cheshire Women's Hockey League division two.

After drawing at Warrington the previous week, the ladies put out a strong team as they got back to winning ways with an emphatic 9-0 romp against a mid-table Crewe team who travelled to Oswestry School with a player short.

After an initial cagey start, the hosts started applying the pressure and their attacks became more forceful as they made the most of their numerical advantage.

With plenty of space to play in, Oswestry were able to start playing some lovely passing play, and built some good attacks using both the middle of the pitch and both the left and right wings.

Crewe could still prove dangerous on the attack, and in the first half Oswestry needed to keep their concentration to break these down.

However, their pressure and persistence was rewarded with a steady stream of goals which will have helped improve their goal difference as Crewe became increasingly dispirited.

Tracey Royle scored five, Sarah Lowe a brace while Jo Woodcock (who gets the prize for most excited goal celebration) and Sandra Jones both joined the party with a goal each.

While these goals were evenly split between both halves, there was a loss of concentration in the second period with Oswestry dropping down to Crewe's level which resulted in some pressure on the home goal.

Buoyed by the win, Oswestry will look to build on this strong attacking performance when they play Deeside Ramblers away on Saturday in the final game before the half term break.

## Village set up Caersws showdown

LLANSANTFFRAID Village sealed their place in the quarter-finals of the Central Wales Cup with a 3-1 home win against Aberystwyth University.

Two goals from Tommy Lewis and one from Kieran Evans took the villagers through to the last eight where they will now face a tricky clash at Cymru Alliance side Caersws.

Sebastian Siedel hit a consolation goal for the students.

It was the end of the road for **WATERLOO ROVERS**, who bowed out 6-3 at in-form Cardigan Town despite leading on three occasions on the long trek to West Wales. Chris Morgan and John Lumb both scored twice for the home side.

Former Welshpool striker Jamie Breese continued his rich vein of scoring form with a brace as **LLANIDLOES TOWN** reached the quarter-finals by beating Carno 3-2 at home.

Charlie Proctor, who has recently joined Llani from Waterloo, bagged a third, with Ashley Owen and Peter Rees keeping the visitors in the hunt.

The Daffs now host Cardigan Town in the last eight.

**Central Wales Cup quarter-finals, revised draw:** Caersws v Llansantffraid Village, Llanidloes Town v Cardigan Town, Penryncoch or Gullestield or Both United v Llanyhearth or Llanfair United, Llandrindod Wells or Rhayader Town or Hay St Marys v Kerry or Bow Street.



Dave Hartshorn netted FC Oswestry Town's crucial goal in their victory against Childs Ercall at Park Hall

# Hartshorn keeps his nerve

A SECOND-HALF penalty from Dave Hartshorn proved enough as FC Oswestry Town moved back into second spot in the Mercian Regional League Premier Division with a precious 1-0 home victory against Childs Ercall.

One of three teams now on 32 points, Town have a better goal difference than rivals FC Hodnet and Whitchurch Alport, although the chase appears to be for runners-up spot as leaders Telford Juniors still hold a 10-point lead at the top of the table with a game in hand.

Town controlled the first half at Park Hall against an excellent Childs Ercall side, Joe Evans forcing the visitors keeper to tip the ball over the bar from a sweet free-kick and Calum

Williams also brought a fingertip save. The best chance of the first half fell to Ercall, only to see Town keeper Ben Richards save well low to his right.

The second period saw the Oswestry hosts continue to control the game with their back four looking impassable, but they were struggling to find the breakthrough.

However, they broke the deadlock on the hour when a fine pass into the box found Hartshorn who was then hauled down and the referee's assistant gave the spot kick, which Hartshorn himself smashed home.

This spurred the visitors and they were unlucky not to equalise soon after but were denied by the upright and a few minutes later they had a goal ruled out for a foul.

Town managed to hold on for the last 10 minutes to take all three points to cap a great team effort and fine performances from captain Olly Jones and brother Adam.

On Saturday, Town host fellow promotion challengers Whitchurch Alport at The Venue Park Hall, kick off 2pm.

**GOBOWEN CELTIC** bowed out of the Mercian Second Division Cup with a 3-1 exit at Belvidere in the quarter-finals.

Scott Murray scored a hat-trick for Belvidere to see them through to the last four, Nathan Williams getting the reply for Gobowen.

Gobowen, who lie third in the table, head to Shifnal Harriers on Saturday and then visit Whitchurch Alport Reserves the following weekend.

## Guils fail to spark in draw with Flint

IN the battle of the league's two form teams, Guilsfield missed a chance of making up significant ground on the Cymru Alliance leaders after being held 1-1 at home by Flint Town United, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

With high flying Llandudno without a game, the second placed Guils were looking to step up the pressure but could only manage a draw in heavy conditions to still leave them seven points off the pace.

They made the perfect start with James Henderson finding the net after just six minutes from a corner, but Luke Camden headed a leveller on 36 minutes – and that was how the scoring remained.

Flint arrived on the back of a 100 per cent record since the turn of the year, but were trailing after six minutes when Henderson netted in a scramble following a corner.

The visitors enjoyed plenty of possession, and were back on terms in the 37th minute, courtesy of another corner when Camden rose highest to head through a crowd of players into the corner of the net.

### Curling

And Flint were almost in front just before half time when Josh Macauley hit a fine curling effort that struck the upright and bounced out while moments later the visitors had strong claims for a penalty turned down following a challenge on Macauley.

In the opening minutes of the second period, it was end to end fare as both sides went in search of the elusive second goal.

Guils keeper Dave Littelford saved well after Jack Abraham beat the offside trap, while at the other end Adam Jenkins hit the post after good work by strike partner Danny Barton.

Flint almost snatched it late on when substitute Mike Garside made a late run into the box, but headed just wide of the goal.

## No-go as COBRA are frozen off

COBRA suffered their first postponement of the season in rugby's Swalec League division one (north) when their home clash with high riding Nant Conwy was called due to a frozen pitch, writes **JOHN BRIDGWATER**.

The Meifod men, who defeated Caernarfon the week before, were looking to put the record straight after suffering a heavy 51-0 defeat away to Nant earlier in the season.

However, with the pitch still frozen at 11.30am following a heavy overnight frost, it was decided to call the match off before the visitors had travelled too far to the game.

Despite the disappointment of not playing a match, the call-off could have proved a blessing in disguise for the squad as the free weekend allowed some niggling injuries a chance to clear up.

**COBRA** have no scheduled game this Saturday, before returning to duty with a crucial trip to basement strugglers Bro Ffestiniog the following.

**WELSHPOOL** also had no planned action in Swalec division three (north) due to the Wales v England Six Nations international the night before.

# Eagles charge forwards to set up six-try demolition

**THE forwards turned on the power as Oswestry rediscovered their form in rugby's South Lancs and Cheshire Two with a storming 38-0 success against lowly Prenton at Granville Park.**

After three defeats which had halted their promotion push, it was a welcome result for the Eagles who, with their pack proving too hot to handle, ran in six tries in one of their best displays of the season.

Jamie Luckett, Zac Baldwin and Luca Owen-Youens scored in first half and Chris Hesketh, Hamish Fuller and James Booth continued the onslaught after the break.

Os were soon in their stride and took the lead after only 10 minutes when Luckett

broke through the middle of a ruck and lay the ball firmly over the try line. Owen-Youens slotted an easy conversion.

After surviving a penalty kick, the hosts were on the attack once more, but lost the ball to the Wirral side's strong backs. They broke towards the line, only to spurn their opportunity after being penalised.

Both teams continued to battle for possession amid some poor handling and scrappy play at times until Gaz Hughes gathered a loose ball and launched a run towards the Prenton try line.

However, Hughes was tackled hard, resulting in him being forced off through injury, with Tyler Morris going to full-back and Owen-Youens taking the outside centre role.

Despite the disruption, Oswestry now started to work the ball with some excellent play between the rampaging forwards and backs.

Winger Jack Fox was halted by a high tackle just a couple of metres from the line, but a quickly-taken penalty saw Baldwin break through the defence to score, with Owen-Youens providing the conversion for a 14-0 lead.

## Os's Aussies lead way as seconds march on

JACK GRAINGER ran in four tries as Oswestry III stretched their winning run to six games with a 43-10 success at Anselmians III in the Freshlet North West League division five (south).

A late cancellation to the second team game meant that the thirds could keep players who have been crucial to them in the past few weeks.

The game started off with both teams contesting well in the middle of the park, but the Eagles took a fifth minute lead when a cheeky chip over the top by Aussie Adam Plumber bounced in to the hands of his fellow countryman Grainger, who sprinted past one defender for his first of four tries. The extras were added by Plumber.

From the restart, Anselmians came back strongly, but Oswestry managed to relieve the pressure, with a good punt down the pitch, the bouncing ball miraculously staying in play and Grainger touched down for his second score of the game.

From the kick-off, the Eagles were back in possession once again, the backs spreading it wide for Grainger to break the de-

### RUGBY UNION by John Bridgwater

With a healthy advantage, the home side turned up the pressure once again, and went further ahead. Andy Merrett made a storming run through the middle of the pitch before providing a sweet offload to Owen-Youens who burst through the defence to score which he also converted.

Prenton battled to get back into the game, working their way towards the Oswestry try line on the stroke of half-time, but tremendous determination from Baldwin and his team-mates resulted in a turn over ball, allowing Owen-Youens to kick into touch.

Soon after the interval, the Eagles were again on the front foot with some terrific all round play. Their efforts earned a quickly-taken penalty, with some excellent passing ending with Hesketh getting the final touch from a forward drive for an unconverted try.

There was no let-up for the visitors, and the Eagles turned defence into attack once again as scrum-half Fuller intercepted to launch a run upfield, passing to Baldwin who was thwarted

by Prenton tackling. Morris was bundled into touch, but Oswestry stole the line-out allowing Fuller to push through and score the fifth try which went unconverted.

Nick Howland had to leave the field through injury, replaced by Nick Clay, who immediately took up the challenge with some excellent play as he harassed the Prenton backs with his nimble footwork.

Oswestry went close again when, from a loose kick from the visitors, Owen-Youens kicked back into the Prenton half. Captain Andy Smith followed up, passing to Tom Keaveny, who was stopped just short of the line.

But they bagged their sixth try close to full time when Morris caught a Prenton kick, and good support by Clay, Merrett and the ever-present Keaveny, set up Booth to score another try.

The result lifts Oswestry into fifth place in the table.

● It was a frustrating day for **OSWESTRY II** whose trip to Macclesfield IV in the Freshlet North West League Division Four (south) was postponed.

## Golf captains drive into office



**TEERING off** – Mile End Golf Club held its annual captain's drive-in with new captains driving into office, joined by more than 70 club members who then participated in a team competition. From left: Peter Mader (club captain), Amanda Ord-Dando (lady captain) and Martin Harris (seniors captain).



**LLANYMNECH** Golf Club held their captains drive-in despite the wet weather doing its best to put a dampener on a rain soaked day. Taking office are (from left): Malcolm Oakley (vice captain), Ian Logsdail (captain), Sue Kime (lady captain) and Bev Gibbs (president)



# SPORT

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## Villagers aiming to ground Canaries

GUILDSFIELD will be looking to get the better of Caernarfon Town at the fourth attempt when they travel to North Wales for a crunch showdown on Saturday.

The villagers, despite going well in second spot in the Cymru Alliance, have found success against the third-placed Canaries elusive this season.

Although there has been little to choose between the sides in the previous three meetings – in the Word Cup, the league and the Welsh Cup – Caernarfon have managed to shade them all.

But boss Mike Parry will be hoping his Guildsfield side can put the record straight this weekend as they look to hang onto the coat tails of leaders Llandudno.

“It’s a big game in the context of the league, and hopefully we can get one over them,” he said. “There was nothing between us in the other games, and I felt we were robbed in the Welsh Cup.”

“But we can go there with confidence. I think they’ve only played once in the last three weeks, and their team has been chopping and changing, so it’s a good chance for us.”

Parry was happy enough with the 1-1 draw at home to Flint Town United on Saturday, a game that featured the league’s two forms team.

The point leaves them seven points behind leaders Llandudno.

“Obviously I would have liked to win, but I was happy enough with a point with the way the game went,” he said.

“I have watched Flint a lot over the last two seasons, and that was by far the best they have played.”

Midfielder Aeron Edwards is the main injury doubt for this weekend’s action.

**Os set for derby test**

ON-SONG Oswestry face a crunch Shropshire derby on Saturday as they look to maintain their promotion push in the West Midlands Hockey League division one.

Third placed Os were again among the goals on their travels with a 6-0 hammering away to Leamington – with victory putting them in good heart for this weekend’s home meeting with Whitchurch.

## Crunch time for Spar sides

THE relegation battle hots up in the Spar Mid Wales League division one on Saturday with several of the strugglers chasing much needed points.

Berriew host basement rivals Machynlleth in a crunch showdown, with just one point separating the sides in the table.

During their enforced two-week lay-off due to the icy weather, the Rhewsiers have suffered a blow with forward Glenn Donaldson leaving the club to sign for Cymru Alliance sure Buckley Town.

And their plans for Saturday’s clash have been further hit with captain Marc Jones unavailable, and Rob Holliday a major doubt with an ankle injury.

Berriew boss Dave Jones, the former

Welshpool chief, is not underestimating the size of the task, adding: “Saturday’s a big game against Machynlleth. I think we need at least three, probably four victories out of our remaining nine games to be safe, and this Saturday’s game is on paper one of the better opportunities.”

Four points below Berriew side are second bottom Montgomery who will want to bounce back at home to Carno after slipping deeper into the mire with their 3-1 loss at Four Crosses. Monty had been bolstered by the inclusion of defender Mark Probert.

Elsewhere, Welshpool look to make up ground on the leading pack at home to Aberaeron while top six side Waterloo Rovers visit Bow Street.

## Rangers set for revenge

ELLESMERE RANGERS boss Dan Stevens knows AFC Bridgnorth will be gunning for revenge when the teams meet at Beech Grove tomorrow.

Rangers were impressive 3-0 winners at Crown Meadow earlier this season, one of only three defeats this term for a Bridgnorth side lying second in the West Midlands League premier division.

Ellesmere have consistently impressed against their fellow high-fliers, now managed by former Wolves man Mark Clyde, and Stevens hopes that trend will continue.

“We played very well when we won 3-0 there on August Bank Holiday Monday,” said the Ellesmere boss. “But I think it will be a very tough game for us this weekend.”

Stevens’ side swept aside Wellington Amateurs 4-0 at Beech Grove last weekend.

Aaron Simms hooked in a loose ball, his first goal for Ellesmere, to edge the hosts in front. Ryan Jones fired in a second before a cross from substitute Mike Jordan was turned into his own net by a defender. Matt Jones converted a cross from Shrewsbury cricketer Matt Swift for the final goal.

Stevens plans to rotate his squad before the County Cup semi-final against Shawbury United at Market Drayton Town on Wednesday, March 11.

SHAWBURY UNITED, well rested after a weekend off, resume their improving premier division campaign with a trip to Herefordshire club Wellington tomorrow.

## Griffiths so proud of Llan after battling cup exit

PLAYER boss Marc Griffiths lauded the efforts of his Llanrhaeadr side despite eventually bowing out of the Welsh Cup with a 4-2 exit at home to Rhyl in the fourth round.

Having reached the last 16 for the first time in the club’s history, the villagers gave it their best shot against the big guns from the Welsh Premier.

But they were up against it after conceding two goals just before half time and one just after the interval. Despite replies from Griffiths himself and Tom Bailey, hopes of a famous cup win failed to materialise.

Llan, however, could still take plenty of satisfaction from their efforts, particularly as they play two tiers below the Seaside in the Spar Mid Wales League Division One.

“Rhyl are a big, physical side, and the two goals before half time killed us,” said Griffiths. “They only had a couple of shots before then, but when they got a chance they were very clinical in front of goal.”

“Had it been 0-0 at half time, it would have given the lads a lift and you never know what could have happened.”

“When they went 3-0 up we showed a lot of character not to go under and I could not have asked for any more. I was chuffed to bits with the way we played.”

Griffiths reflected on a fantastic week for the club, with the match and the build-up being featured on S4C, and hopes his side can maintain their excellent season in the coming weeks.

“It was a great day for the club, hopefully everyone will be talking about it for a long time,” he added.

There’s another big cup game on Saturday for Llanrhaeadr who welcome high-flying visitors Llanfair United in the Central Wales Cup fourth round (2pm). Griffiths and his men will be keen to avenge a 3-0 home defeat to the runaway Spar League leaders last month.

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# SAINTS BOSS WARY OF TRIP TO ROBINS

**THE New Saints may have swept all before them this season, but boss Craig Harrison believes his team’s unbeaten campaign could face its toughest test at Newtown on Saturday.**

The Welsh Premier high-fliers make the trip in good heart, after staying firm on course for the treble with Sunday’s 3-0 Welsh Cup victory over Gresford Athletic.

By contrast, Newtown had to survive a scare before battling back to win 3-2 at derby rivals Caersws in a gruelling Welsh Cup tie in midweek.

But the Robins have proved a handful for the defending champions this season, drawing 1-1 Park Hall before being unfortunate to lose 3-2 at home after Chris Seargeant scored the TNS winner six minutes into injury time.

Goalscorer Seargeant will be missing this time as he recovers from a back injury, but even so the Saints have enough strength in depth to comfortably cover for his absence.

**Tough**  
Few would bet against the runaway league leaders making another successful raid on Newtown’s 3G pitch at Latham Park where they also lifted the Word Cup a few weeks back, but Harrison is wary of the mid-Wales hosts who have produced some of their best displays against the Saints.

“Since I’ve been at the club, Newtown have always done well against us,” he said.

“We’ve had some really tough games with them and I don’t see it being any different this time.

**by John Bridgwater**

“It’s going to be difficult game, and to stay unbeaten is going to be a massive challenge, but we’ve got a strong squad with everyone fighting for their place in every position.”

“There is a lot of hunger and desire to keep the run going, and everyone is working hard for each other.”

“We’re now unbeaten in 30 games this season, and we have won our last 11 games, scored 31 and conceded just three which is a fantastic record.”

“We just want to keep that run going, try to win every game and be as professional as we can.”

Although Seargeant is ruled out, striker Alex Darlington is back in contention after recovering from his broken hand sustained against Cefn Druids last month.

Fellow forward Mike Wilde is also back following his broken cheekbone, although he will need to wear a protective mask for the rest of the season.

Harrison, meanwhile, was delighted to clinch a place in the Welsh Cup quarter-finals for another

season – but admitted that the cup holders now face a tough tie at GAP Connah’s Quay.

“Like everyone, we wanted a home tie which we didn’t get, and we know it’s going to be tough away at GAP,” said Harrison.

“They are an improving team, are well drilled and well organised, and have brought in some good players, so it’s a difficult tie for us.”

“But we’re delighted to be through again after having to work hard against Gresford who dropped dead and defended for their lives.”

“We knew that we just had to stay patient, and with the quality we’ve got, we knew the goals would eventually come.”

**Welsh Cup quarter-final draw:** GAP Connah’s Quay v TNS, Aberystwyth Town v Airbus UK, Carmarthen Town v Rhyl, Bangor City v Newtown. Ties to be played over weekend of 7-8 March.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
The New Saints	23	18	5	0	70	16	59
Aberystwyth T.	23	13	6	4	52	37	45
Bala Town	23	14	2	7	49	29	44
Airbus UK B.	23	12	4	7	42	24	40
Port Talbot T.	23	10	3	10	40	39	33
Newtown AFC	23	9	5	9	42	41	32



Oswestry’s Luca Owen Youens scores a try with Zak Baldwin celebrating

AFTER a barren start to the New Year, Oswestry’s rugby players got back to winning ways in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two with a convincing 38-0 success against lowly Prenton at Granville Park.

Three defeats in January had halted their promotion push, so it was a welcome victory which was set up by a powerful display from the forwards.

Despite the six-try display, the Eagles remain fifth in the table, and still 21 points adrift of the promotion places, a position they will be out to improve on in their next action away to Port Sunlight a week on Saturday.

■ See page 39.

erful display from the forwards.

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